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Prostate cancer screening awareness among adult males in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

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Cancer is a serious disease causing over eight millions deaths every year worldwide. Prostate cancer (PC) is among the widespread types of cancer among men in western countries and the second most common one worldwide. In Saudi Arabia, it is considered the third most common cancer according to the world health organization (WHO). Cancers such as breast cancer and PC-treatment is directly correlated with early detection depending, on several factors including the screening behavior, knowledge and attitude. Therefore, improving awareness of the disease among Saudi men population plays is crucial. Since awareness survey studies in Saudi Arabia neglected PC data; we aim to assess the level of awareness of PC and the detection behavior among adult males in Saudi Arabia. As a pilot we started our survey in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. We started by conducting a cross sectional study during July and August of 2017 on 461 subjects. Our population based sample consists of adult males living in Jeddah with no history of PC. The target samples were selected from shopping centers, coffee shops, health and educational campuses and online via (Snow-Balling technique). A structured-questioner designed included 29 questions, the first 16 questions designed to know the demographic features and assess the level of knowledge about PC, while the other 13 questions concerned with the level of awareness regarding PC screening. The questioner was distributed as self-administrated version and as an electronic-administrated one. Collected data revealed that 79.4% of participants did not have any information in regards to PC Screening methods. We identified among this high percentage that 190 (41.2%) and 162 (35.1%) subjects confirmed to have insufficient information about PC symptoms and risk factors respectively. In addition, out of 461, only 10 of our participants have done prostate cancer screening before. Therefore, the survey results may influence further studies to be conducted among different groups following a campaign to increase the awareness level by establishing public awareness campaigns and free screening programmers.

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