

Skin cancer preventive behaviors in female high school students

Ali Khani Jeihooni* and **Tayebeh Rakhshani**
Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iran

Background: School-based education programs can be an effective way to educate adolescents about the preventive behaviors of skin cancer. The purpose of this study is to determine the factors related to skin cancer prevention behaviors based on the theory of planned behavior (TPB) in female high school students in Fasa city, Fars, Iran.

Methods: This study was conducted in two stages. First, a descriptive-analytical cross-sectional study to investigate the determinants and predictors of skin cancer prevention behaviors based on theory of planned behavior (TPB) performed on 350 female high school students. In the second stage, according to the results of the cross-sectional study, an experimental study was performed on 400 female high school students in Fasa city in 2019-2020.

Results: The results showed an association between preventive behaviors of skin cancer with awareness, attitudes, subjective norms, perceived behavioral control and behavioral intention. Behavioral intent, perceived behavioral control and attitude were the strongest predictors of skin cancer prevention behaviors. In general, the variables studied predicted 60.4% of the behaviors. The results showed that before educational intervention, there was no significant difference between the two groups of experimental and control in terms of awareness, attitude, subjective norms, perceived behavioral control, behavioral intent and behaviors that prevent skin cancer but three months after the training intervention, the experimental group showed increasing in each of the variables mentioned, which is a significant difference, while in the control group there was no significant difference.

Conclusions: This study showed the effectiveness of educational intervention program based on theory of planned behavior on improvement of preventive behaviors of skin cancer in the female high school Students

Keywords: Female students, Intention, Preventive Behaviors, Skin Cancer, Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB).

Biography

Ali Khani Jeihooni is affiliated from Department of Public Health, School of Health, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran. His research interest includes Breast Cancer.

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