



همایش ملی مامایی و سلامت زنان  
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**Title: Knowledge and practice of students at Shahed University about breast cancer and its screening methods in 2014**

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**Background and Aim:** Breast cancer is a dangerous and deadly disease that is the most common cause of mortality in the world. Knowledge of screening methods and breast self-examination may increase early detection of breast cancer. Since high knowledge and proper performance of students in breast cancer detection methods can reduce the prevalence of this disease in the student and their families, this study was conducted to determine the knowledge and practice of female students living in Shahed University dormitories.

**Materials and Methods:** This descriptive-analytical study was performed on 300 female students residing in Shahed University dormitories in two groups of medical and non-medical. Data collection tools included a demographic questionnaire and questions about knowledge and practice of students about breast cancer that were completed by self-report. Descriptive and inferential statistics ( $\chi^2$  and t-test) were used for data analysis by SPSS software version 17.

**Results:** The mean age of the students was 21.04 with a standard deviation of 1.9. 70% of all samples (24% of medical students and 46% of non-medical students) had poor knowledge about the symptoms and methods of breast cancer screening. Also 88.4% of students had poor performance. There was a significant relationship between performance and awareness of breast cancer. Statistically, it was seen

( $p < .05$ ) that people with better knowledge performed better.

**Conclusion:** It seems that most of the subjects had poor knowledge and practice regarding the symptoms and methods of screening for breast cancer. Therefore, it is necessary to implement educational programs in dormitories to increase students' awareness of the symptoms of the disease and the necessity of breast self-examination and the timing and proper method of doing it.

**Keywords:** Breast Cancer, Knowledge, Practice, Students