

DISSERTATION TITLE:
**FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO LOW ATTENDANCE FOR CERVICAL
CANCER SCREENING IN UNGUJA URBAN DISTRICT**

BY AMINA SLEYYUM ADDI

ABSTRACT

Low attendance for cervical cancer screening continues to be a public health problem in Unguja Urban district. The objective of the study is to identify factors contributing to low attendance for cervical cancer screening among women above 25years in Unguja Urban district. A descriptive cross sectional study was conducted from January to May 2009. A total of 195 respondents were included in the study, composed of 123 women above 25years, 40 health care providers who work in Reproductive Child health clinics and 32 women for Focus Group Discussion.

The study findings revealed that majority of health care providers had low knowledge on cervical cancer. Also (95%) of health care providers had not attended any training on cervical cancer screening. There also found that most of women were unaware of cervical cancer screening and (79%) have never been screened for cervical cancer. Low knowledge of the health care providers and lack of awareness to the women could be the contributing factors toward low attendance for cervical cancer screening in the study area. Therefore, there is need for DHMT to establish training on cervical cancer screening to health care providers, and should set up health facilities for providing cervical cancer screening in order to distribute cervical cancer screening services. Sensitization should be done to women on importance of attending for cervical cancer screening in all RCH clinics and at community levels. IEC material should be distributed during health education session. The Health Action Model will be applied to bring the behavior changes towards low attendance for cervical cancer screening.