KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF MINISTERS OF RELIGION OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH IN ZIMBABWE AGED 40 TO 65YEARS ON PROSTATE
CANCER.

BY HILDA MUZENDA

B1233748

RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENT OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN NURSING
EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

JUNE 2015
Abstract

Prostate cancer has become the number one cancer in men with increasing incidence and morbidity in men of black African ancestry (Akinremi et al, 2011). The purpose of the study was to determine the knowledge, attitudes and practices of ministers of religion of the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe aged 40 to 65 years on prostate cancer. The Health Belief Model was used to guide the study. Descriptive study design was used with a sample of 100 ministers of religion drawn using the convenient sampling method. Self-administered questionnaire was used for data collection. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and presented in, bar graphs, pie charts and tables. There was generally poor knowledge and several misconceptions regarding prostate cancer and screening in the study population. The study findings showed that a source of information about prostate cancer was the mass media while with only thirty two (32%) got it from health workers. Thirty four (34%) knew about prostate specific antigen test and only nineteen (19%) knew about self-examination of the prostate cancer. Although 64% thought they were not susceptible to prostate cancer, only nine (9%) had undergone testing. Health educators should develop education and awareness programmes targeting churches using billboards or posters for this population. Workshops may also be conducted for ministers of religion for empowerment training especially to those at risk of prostate cancer so that they get screened early before pathogenesis.