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Knowledge level Attitude and Performance of Women on Diet and Exercise and Their Relation with Cardiovascular Diseases Risk Factors

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Background and Objective: Nowadays cardiovascular diseases have affected more women than men. A healthy diet and physical activity are two essential factors in life style. Unhealthy life style have direct effect on these risk factors. A survey on womens' lifestyle due to their important role in family life style can help to recognize problems as well as to establish guidelines for society family health promotion programs.

Materials and Methods: In this descriptive cross-sectional study, life style and risk factors of cardiovascular diseases was evaluated by standard Monica questionnaire in Zanjan. In this study 997 women older than 20 years were analyzed.

Results: The majority of the subjects had a good knowledge about the effect of exercise (66/7%) and the attitude (4/62%) on cardiovascular disease prevention. But a few of them had an appropriate performance (24/1%). There was a significant statistical difference in the level of blood cholesterol ($P=0/02$) fasting blood sugar ($P=0/03$) and blood pressure ($P=0/02$) and physical activity and exercise. But there was no significant statistical difference in the level of knowledge about diet with the level of blood cholesterol, sugar, hypertension and their performance.

Conclusion: Knowledge alone does not guarantee the performance of individuals. An intervention in order to improve the health behaviors is necessary.

Key words: *Knowledge, Attitude, Performance, Women, Cardiovascular Disease*