A HEALTH CARE EVALUATION OF FACTORS AFFECTING ACCESS TO CRYOTHERAPY AFTER REFERRAL FOR A POSITIVE VISUAL INSPECTION USING ACETIC ACID AND VISUAL INSPECTION WITH LUGOL`S IODINE CERVICAL CANCER SCREEN IN KHWISERO WESTERN KENYA.

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Objective:
Visual inspection using acetic acid and visual inspection using lugols iodine (VIA/VILI) has received strong support for Cervical cancer screening in developing countries due to low cost. Developing countries are likely to benefit from VIA/VILI and timely cryotherapy. Cryotherapy is a simple procedure that cures dysplasia; however there are several factors that hinder access to this technique. We reviewed data collected during a medical camp to assess utilization of cryotherapy in Khwisero Western Kenya.

Methodology:
Patients were counselled on benefits of cervical cancer screening had VIA/VILI done. Intent was to see and treat however cryotherapy could not be done at the camp due to machine breakdown. Patients with a positive screen were thus referred to the nearest centre offering cryotherapy for treatment. A follow up call one month later was made to find out whether they had gone for further care or not and reasons documented.

Results:
One hundred and nine patients were screened; 73 were negative for VIA/VILI, 21 were positive and referred for cryotherapy. No patient received cryotherapy following referral.

Recommendations:
VIA/VILI screening requires timely access to a treatment option.