ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional study aimed to identify the personal hygiene behavior related to vaginitis. The target population is currently married women who have vaginitis in Longan Hospital Vietnam. The sample size was 171 currently married women who have vaginitis. The data was collected by interview using a structured questionnaire during 1 - 31 January 2002.

The finding indicated that the level of personal hygiene behavior for preventing vaginitis was low among married women respondents. The results show that there was a low-level of knowledge about signs and symptoms of vaginitis and that the levels of perception were also not high.

It was found that the personal hygiene behavior is significantly related to education, occupation, family income, knowledge and perception susceptibility, and the result of perception barriers.

It is suggested that in order to improve practicing hygiene behavior, which contributes indirectly to the prevention of vaginitis, effective health education is necessary. More attention should be paid to developing appropriate health education material. The contents of the material should provide not only knowledge about signs and symptoms of vaginitis, but also guidance for practicing preventive and treatment behavior.