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## Barriers to breast and cervical cancer screening (in Turkey): Experience of women with physical disabilities

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Despite women with disabilities having the same or greater risk of having cervical and breast cancer than women without disabilities, they are less likely to uptake breast and cervical cancer screening services. The aim of this qualitative descriptive study was to explore the experiences of breast and cervical cancer screening of women with physical disabilities. Fifteen women with physical disabilities were recruited for the purpose of this study. Data were collected via semi-structured face to face interviews. Interviews were transcribed and data were analysed thematically. The cervical and breast cancer screening rate was low in this population. Generally, participants conveyed that their cervical and breast cancer screening experiences were negative. Barriers include those related to environment, physical and mental limitations, finances, lack of knowledge, psychosocial issues. As a conclusion, women with physical disabilities experience significant barriers to cervical and breast cancer screening. This information is essential for national and local public health and health care organizations to target interventions to improve care for women with disabilities.

### Biography

Ayşe Kılıç graduated from Gülhane Military Medical Academy School of Nursing, in 1996. She completed PhD at Gülhane Military Medical Academy School of Nursing in 2005. She is an Associate Professor at Gülhane Military Medical Academy School of Nursing, Obstetrics and Gynecology Nursing Department now. She has published 10 international papers in reputed journals and has been serving as reviewers for some national journals.

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