

Correlation between Women's Attitudes and Abstain (Used/ Unused) Contraceptive Methods at Primary Health Care Centers in Baghdad City

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Abstract

Background: family planning is a preventive service that allows married couples achieving their desired number of children and deciding the spacing of pregnancies according to their economic opportunities and personal wishes, and to ensure that the births are at appropriate intervals for the mother and child health.

Objective: To find out the correlation between women attitudes and abstain and to find out the relationship between demographic characteristics and obstetrical history.

Methodology: A descriptive and analytic (cross sectional) study, was started at 16th September 2019 to 16th September 2020, conducted at Primary Health Care Center in Baghdad City, Iraq. Non probability (a purposive sample) the study sample consist of (150) women that attending Primary Health Care Center in Baghdad City, Iraq.

Results: indicates that there is significant relationship between women's attitude and abstain of contraceptive methods as presented by significant correlation at p-value= 0.038.

Conclusions: there is significant relationship between women's attitude and abstain of contraceptive methods related to Iraqi social habits that make men compel women to become pregnant and have a lot of children and there are other causes prevent women using contraceptive methods.

Recommendation: Designing programs to educate couples about family planning and using of contraceptive before marriage, Empowering the role of nurse in family planning to educate the women about contraceptive methods and how to use it and help them to choice the appropriate method, Activate the role of media in increase awareness of families in the Iraqi society about disadvantages of unplanned pregnancies and do not using contraceptive methods on women well-being and the luxury of community, and further studies to identifying the causes that make women do not use of contraceptive methods.

Keywords: Women, Attitudes, Contraceptives Methods, Abstain

Introduction

Family planning is defined as having the freedom and responsibility of all the couples and the individuals to decide the number of children they desire and having the knowledge, education and tools for this purpose. In other words, family planning is a preventive service that allows married couples achieving their desired number of children and deciding the spacing of pregnancies according to their economic opportunities

and personal wishes, and to ensure that the births are at appropriate intervals for the mother and child health [1]. Over the past half century, an extensive literature has been accumulated on women's attitudes and beliefs concerning contraception in general and specific methods. The extensive evidence for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) falls into four main categories. The most common category comprises studies that examine attitudes towards and beliefs about contraception in general, with little or no distinction

between specific methods. The emphasis in many papers is on negative perceptions, often labelled as myths and misinformation. Commonly reported themes include the belief that use of modern methods will cause long term infertility, serious health damage, such as cancer and foetal abnormalities^[2].

Low rates of unintended pregnancy are linked to access to contraceptive methods and legal access to abortion. Once women decide which tool to use, the efficacy of contraceptive methods is considered important. During contraceptive therapy, the efficacy of “typical use” rather than the “best usage” of contraceptive methods should be considered. The traditional use of contraceptive methods, however, may not be common knowledge among providers or women. Younger women have been shown to have less adherence to methods that require daily intake ^[3]. The most research regarding family planning methods is based on self-reported reasons for family planning non-use or discontinued use. Demo-graphic and health surveys (DHSs) are the dominant data source. The new study of reasons for non-use by married women who do not wish to become pregnant found that 20–33 percent of the 52 countries surveyed reported side effects or health concerns. This class of explanation has been the most widespread in 21 countries ^[4]. Moreover, the majority of women in a lot of countries who gave this reason for preventing birth control had already used a modern method. Fear of adverse effects, disapproval by couples, a limitation of option and knowledge and social disapproval give an explanation for unsatisfactory needs and low family planning use. Son preference has too been an issue in fertility especially in patrilineal societies, and this persists even with improvement in women’s levels of education social and economic-economic development. In addition, cultural differences have been highlighted, in particular traditional expectations and desires for more children and lines, as affecting family planning ^[5]. Important barriers to contraceptive methods use are myths and misunderstandings towards modern methods, for instance, in both developed and developing

countries, many women misunderstand the use of oral contraceptives as being more dangerous than pregnancy ^[6].

Methodology

The study was started at 16th September 2019 to 16th September 2020, and the objectives were explained to the study sample by the researcher, the women’ verbal consent has been taken and the answering of questions have been done by using the self-administrative methods. In this study there is (150) women who were attending Primary Health Care Center in Baghdad City, Iraq. Which were selected according to inclusion criteria that are the females in reproductive age who attending Primary Health Care Center in Baghdad City, married women, and have children. The questionnaire consists of (3) parts, the first consists of Socio-Demographic Characteristics include: (age, level of education of women and their husband, occupation of woman and their husband, residency, socio economic status). The second consists of Reproductive History and includes (age at menarche, age at marriage, marriage duration, women parity, general information about children (gender, age, mode of delivery, and mode of feeding), age of mother at the primiparity and types of contraceptive methods that used and their duration. The third consists of Question about women attitudes is consist of (51) items which are divided in to three main domains first one is (effective domain) consist of (12) items, the second one is (behavioral domain) consist of (17) items, and the last one is (cognitive domain) consist of (22) items. participant answering the questionnaire to Evaluate their Attitudes about using of Contraceptive Methods. Some of questions had a positive Attitude and the other a negative Attitude, women that participate in this study were answering the questions by Owen selves and express their opinion about using of Contraceptive Methods without any disruption or direction from the researcher, so all the Attitudes that appear in the results it is express the Attitudes of Iraqi women about using of Contraceptive Methods.

Results

Table (1): Distribution of Women’s Socio-demographic Characteristics (SDCv.)

SDCv.	Classes	Wife		Husband		C.S. (*) [P-value]
		f	%	f	%	
Women’s age group Yrs.	15 – 24 years	24	16			P=0.042 (S)
	25 – 34 years	67	44.7			
	35 – 44 years	44	29.3			
	45 ≤ years	15	10			
	Average mean =	31±7				
Education:	Unable to read & write	3	2	3	2	Women’s Attitude with regard to their Level of Education P=0.811 (NS) Women’s Attitude Regard to their Husbands’ Level of Education P=0.842 (NS)
	Primary school	25	16.7	25	16.7	
	Intermediate school	30	20	30	20	
	Secondary school	25	16.7	14	9.3	
	Diploma (Institute)	29	19.3	35	23.3	
	Bachelor (College)	30	20	40	26.7	
	Postgraduate	8	5.3	3	2	
Occupation	Housewife / Jobless	81	54	4	2.7	Women’s Attitude with regard to their Occupation P=0.130 (NS) Women’s Attitude Regard to their Husbands’ Occupation P=0.453 (NS)
	Employee	68	45.3	74	49.3	
	Free Job	1	0.7	68	45.3	
	Retired	0	0	4	2.7	
Residency (both)	Urban	142	94.7	-	-	P=0.375 (NS)
	Sub-urban	8	5.3	-	-	
	Rural	0	0	-	-	
Monthly income (both) (Iraqi Dinars):	< 300,000	26	17.3			P=0.272 (NS)
	300,000 – 600,000	48	32			
	601,000 – 900,000	26	17.3			
	901,000 – 1,200,000	29	19.4			
	1,201,000 – 1,500,000	15	10			
	1,501,000 ≤	6	4			

Table (2): Correlation between Women's Attitudes and Abstain (Used/Unused) Contraceptive Methods (N=150)

Correlation		Attitude	Abstain
Attitude	Pearson correlation	1	0.169
	Sig.(2-taild)	--	0.038
Abstain	Pearson correlation	0.169	1
	Sig.(2-taild)	0.038	--

Sig= significance

The table (2) indicates that there is significant relationship between women's attitude and abstain of contraceptive methods as presented by significant correlation at p-value= 0.038.

Results and Discussion

Table (1) shows observed frequencies, and percentages of the studied socio-demographical characteristics variables (SDCV) which are distributed according to studied samples as well as that (44.7%) of women are with age group (25-34) years old and (29.3%) of them are with age group (35-44) years; the average mean for those women was refer to (31±7) year, (20%) among women who were graduated from college and intermediate school; while (19.3%) of them were having diploma degree. Educational level for women's husbands, the highest percentages among them were indicated that their husbands are with bachelor degree (26.7%) and diploma degree (23.3%), half of women are housewives (54%) and (45.3%) are governmental employee, women's husbands refers that (49.3%) of them are governmental employee and (45.3%) are Free job as presented the higher percentages among occupation for women's husbands, majority of women are living in an urban area (94.7%) while only (5.3%) were resident in sub-urban areas, and (32%) of women are associated with monthly income of (300 000 - 600 000) Iraqi Dinars, (19.4%) of women are associated with moderate socio-economic status as reported that their income is (901,000 – 1,200,000) Iraqi dinar/ month, and (17.3%) of them are reported their monthly income is (< 300,000 and 601,000-900,000) Iraqi Dinar.

Significant relationship between women's attitude with regard to their age presented by significant difference between overall scale and age group at

p-value \leq 0.05. No significant relationship between women's attitude with regard to their level of education, their occupation, their husband's education, and their occupation at p-value \leq 0.05. No significant relationship between women's attitude with regard to their residency at p-value \leq 0.05, no significant relationship between women's attitude with regard to their socio-economic status at p-value \leq 0.05.

The table (2) indicates that there is significant relationship between women's attitude and abstain of contraceptive methods as presented by significant correlation at p-value= 0.038.

Table (3) shows that they got their first menstruation at age of (13 and 14) years old (27.3%), that half of women were marrying at the age (18-23) years old (50%), (20.7%) were marrying at age (24-29) years, that about third of women are reported (6-10) years as duration of their marriage (33.3%), and (29.3%) are reported that they married for (1-5) years ago, presented the descriptive characteristics of women's children; the number of children is distributed among the women, all of them are reporting they have one child (N=150), 112 of them reported they have two children, 75 of them are reported they have three children, 44 of them are reported they have four children, 23 are having five, 8 are having six, only three having seven, and only one having eight children, and women are born their first child at age of (19 – 23) years with high percentage among women under the study (40%). That there is no significant relationship between women's attitude

with regard to their age at menarche at p -value ≤ 0.05 . Significant relationship between women's attitude with regard to their age at marriage and their years of marriage indicated by significant difference between overall scale and age at p -value ≤ 0.05 .

Conclusions

The study concluded the following:

1. The highest percentage of women were at age group (25-34) years old. Their educational level was intermediate school and bachelor and their husband had bachelor. Were housewives and their husband employee. They lived in an urban area with moderate income.

2. The highest percentage of women had menarche at age (13 and 14) years old. Half of them married at age (18-23) years old. Third of them had (6-10) years marriage duration. All of them have children and they have the first child at age (19-23) years old.

3. There is significant relationship between women's attitude and abstain of contraceptive methods related to Iraqi social habits that make men compel women to become pregnant and have a lot of children and there are other causes prevent women using contraceptive methods.

Recommendations: Designing programs to educate couples about family planning and using of contraceptive before marriage, Empowering the role of nurse in family planning to initiate workshop to educate the women about contraceptive methods and how to use it and help them to choice the appropriate method, Activate the role of media in increase awareness of families in the Iraqi society about disadvantages of unplanned pregnancies and do not using contraceptive methods on women well-being and the luxury of community, and further studies to identifying the causes that make women do not use of

contraceptive methods.

Ethical Clearance: The Research Ethical Committee at scientific research by ethical approval of both environmental and health and higher education and scientific research ministries in Iraq

Conflict of Interest:

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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