

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding use of emergency contraceptive pills as a method of contraceptive among eligible couples in selected area of Muktsar, Punjab

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Abstract: Emergency contraceptive pills (the “morning- after pills”) are used after intercourse has already taken place. They prevent pregnancy by delaying the release of an egg from the ovaries and possibly by thickening cervical mucus and making “swimming conditions” for sperm unfavorable. Studies indicate that emergency contraception does not prevent implantation; it simply keeps the egg and sperm from ever meeting. The aim of study is to assess the knowledge regarding the use of emergency contraception among eligible couples. A research design is descriptive design. The sample consist of 150 married couples. Non probability convenient sampling techniques is used to select the sample. The assessment of knowledge of women regarding emergency contraceptive pills were carried out using self-structured questionnaire tools. The collected sample was analyzed by using descriptive statistics. Results revealed that mean for overall knowledge of women was 20.066 and median was found 18.87 and mode was 19.095 . The study conclude that there was good knowledge regarding contraception among women i.e. 57.4 % .49.4% of participants had average knowledge and 8 % had excellent knowledge regarding contraception.

Keywords: Contraceptive pills, knowledge, women

INTRODUCTION

During 19th century in USA, birth rate declines in part due to an increase in scientific information about contraception or birth control. Average white women in 1800 gave birth 7 times. By 1900, number dropped to average of 3.5birth. At beginning of 1800s, early stage abortions generally were legal. It was not until the mid to late 1800 that abortion laws were passes to ban the procedure. The use of birth control and abortion, declined as growing opinion of birth control methods¹.

Emergency contraceptives (the “morning- after pills”) are used after intercourse has already taken place. They prevent pregnancy by delaying the release of an egg from the ovaries and possibly by thickening cervical mucus and making “swimming conditions” for sperm unfavorable. Studies indicate that emergency contraception does not prevent implantation; it simply keeps the egg and sperm from ever meeting. When women took emergency contraception before they had ovulated, they become pregnant at a much lower rate. When women took emergency contraception after ovulation, they became pregnant at a rate comparable to women who had not taken emergency contraception. If emergency contraception prevented implantation, the women who took it after ovulating would have gotten pregnant at lower rates than women not taking emergency contraception

PROBLEM STATEMENT

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding use of emergency contraceptive pills as a method of contraceptive among eligible couples in selected area of Muktsar, Punjab.

OBJECTIVE

- To assess the knowledge regarding the use of emergency contraception among people of selected area.
- To find out the association of knowledge with selected demographic variables.

METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH APPROACH

- Problem and to accomplish the objectives of study, a non-experimental study was used. A non-experimental study was considered appropriate for assessment of knowledge regarding emergency contraceptive pills among married couples.

RESEARCH SETTING

- The study will be conducted in selected community area in Muktsar Punjab. Is study was conducted in selected community area, in Muktsar Punjab. It is the physical location where the data collection takes place.

TARGET POPULATION:

- Population refers to the aggregate of objects or subjects that conform to set of specifications.

SAMPLE AND SAMPLE TECHNIQUE:

- Sampling is a process of selecting a portion of population to represent entire population.

SAMPLE SIZE: The tool size was 150 Sample in Muktsar to collect data. Researchers approached 150 eligible couples for the study.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Organization and presentation of data

The data collected was edited, tabulated, analyzed, interpreted and finding obtained were presented in the form of tables and pie diagrams presented under following section:

Section A: Socio-demographic profile consisting of age, time of marriage, number of babies, type of family, religion, education, occupation, family income(per month), any previous knowledge regarding emergency contraceptive pills.

Section B: Structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding emergency contraceptive pills of community people.

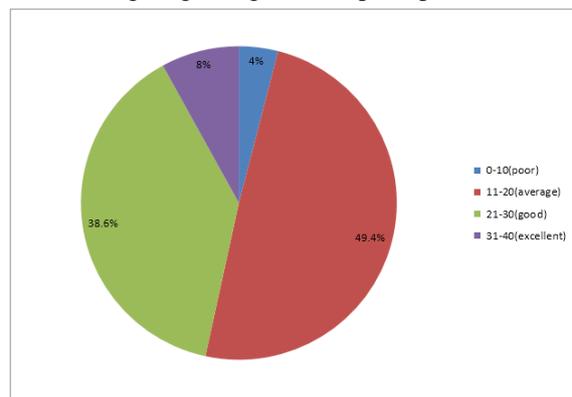
KNOWLEDGE REGARDING CONTRACEPTIVE PILLS

Table 1: Percentage distribution of knowledge regarding contraceptive pills:-

Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage
1-10(poor)	6	4%
11-20(average)	74	49.4%
21-30(good)	58	38.6%
31-40(excellent)	12	8%
Total	150	100%

Total 1 shows that highest percentage of knowledge were found in 11-20(average) is 49.4% and lowest value in 0-10(poor) is 4%.

Figure 1 pie diagram showing percentage distribution of knowledge regarding contraceptive pills.



MAJOR FINDINGS

The findings of the study had presented in figures and tables.

1. Description of characteristics of sample socio demographic variables. According to age distribution of study subject, majority of study subject fall in the age group of 28-33(43%) 65, 22-27(30%) 45, 34-39(17%)10, 40-45(3%) 4 and 15-21(17%) 26. According to family income of above 12000 Rs. (37.3%) 56, 9,000-12,000 Rs. (28%) 42, 6,000-9,000 Rs. (19.3%) 29 and 3,000-6,000Rs. (15.4%) 23. According to the number of children, mostly of one baby (41.4%) 62 and 2 babies (20%) 30, 3 babies or more than 3 babies (16%) 24 and none (22.6%) 34. According to the size of family of nuclear (52%) 78 and joint family (48%) 72. According to religion of Sikh (63.3%) 95, Hindu (23.4%) 35, Muslim (4%) 6and others (9.3%) 14. According to educational status are Primary (18.6%) 28, Secondary (42.7%) 64, Diploma (24%) 36, Degree (14.7%) 22. According to occupation of housewife (54.6%) 82, Labor (4.7%) 07, Private Employees (28.7%) 43 and Government Employees (12%) 18. According to time of marriage, maximum subject were found in the time of marriage

I.e.39% (58), minimum were in above 4 years I.e.26% (40) in between 0 to 2 years were found 35 % (52).

CONCLUSION

Our study finding revealed that couples knowledge regarding emergency contraception is good and majority of them are not aware of these current recommendations. Mean use of emergency contraception is delayed due to improper information and couples not accepting. Emergency contraceptive pills. Other factors influencing delayed use of emergency contraception are social myths and improper distribution of emergency contraceptive pills.

Hence, It is essential that accurate information and education should be given to the eligible couples about appropriate use of emergency contraception to prevent unwanted pregnancies. The study revealed that there was good knowledge regarding emergency contraceptive pills among eligible couples i.e 38.6%. 49.4% of participants had average knowledge and 8% had excellent knowledge regarding emergency contraception.

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