



A STUDY ON PREVALENCE OF EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION USAGE AND KNOWLEDGE REGARDING ITS USAGE AMONG MARRIED FEMALES ATTENDING OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Dr Hemlata Thakur

HOD Community medicine GMC Ambikapur C.G.

Dr Anmol Madhur minz*

Assistant professor Community medicine GMC Raigarh. *Corresponding Author

Dr Vivek Sharma

Associate professor Community Medicine GMC Bilaspur.

ABSTRACT Contraception also known as birth control is a method which prevent pregnancy by interfering with the normal process of ovulation, fertilization & implantation. Emergency contraception also known as postcoital contraception, it refers to a group of birth control modalities that, when used after unprotected intercourse within defined time constrains, can mortally reduce risk of resultant unintended pregnancy. Objective: 1. To assess the prevalence of contraceptive usage among married females attending obstetrics and gynecology dept 2. To assess knowledge regarding emergency contraceptive among married females attending obstetrics and gynecology dept. Result: 43% of females belonging to the age group 22-25 years has knowledge regarding emergency contraceptives. knowledge about emergency contraception in married females was about 75.3%.

KEYWORDS : Contraception, Emergency contraception, married female

INTRODUCTION

Contraception also known as birth control is a method which prevent pregnancy by interfering with the normal process of ovulation, fertilization & implantation. Contraceptive methods are preventive methods to help women avoid unwanted pregnancies They include all temporary & permanent measure to prevent pregnancy resulting from coitus. Emergency contraception also known as postcoital contraception, it refers to a group of birth control modalities that, when used after unprotected intercourse within defined time constrains, can mortally reduce risk of resultant unintended pregnancy.¹ It is an important backup measure for any breach in regular contraceptive use also useful for contraceptive failure & victims of sexual assault. Postcoital contraception is recommended within 72 hours of an unprotected intercourse While American women celebrate 50th anniversary of pill. Women in India are embracing a different method of contraception. More than 100 million will have taken a birth control pill, but it acceptance in world's second most populous nation has been dismally low. According to 2005 national family health survey only 49% of Indian women use contraceptives, and of this only 3% on emergency contraceptive pill.² Further unintended pregnancy possess major challenge to the reproductive health young adults in the developing countries like India , with the age decreasing of menarche& onset of sexual activity, youths are exposed early to unprotected & unplanned sexual intercourse leading to unwanted pregnancies and invariable abortion.

The essential aim of family planning is to prevent the unwanted pregnancies. An unwanted pregnancy may lead to an induced abortion. From the point of view of health, abortion outside the medical setting is one of the most dangerous consequences of unwanted pregnancy, keeping this in mind one cross sectional study was carried out to assess perception regarding emergency contraceptive measure.

METHODOLOGY

study was a cross-sectional descriptive study to find out the prevalence of contraception usage and knowledge regarding emergency contraception among married females attending obstetrics and gynecology dept. Total study subjects were 200 who were selected randomly according to their OPD attendance. Questionnaire was designed and tested before the study, ethical clearance was taken and informed consent was also taken from the subject before the study. After data was taken and compiled in MS-Excel and was checked for the completeness.

TABLE – 1

Subjects ever used any contraceptive methods	Response in (%)
Yes	74(37%)
No	126 (63%)
Total	200
Reason behind not using contraceptives	Response in (%)

Husband not agrees to use one	70 (55 %)
Lack of knowledge	12 (10%)
Fear of side effects	44 (35%)
TOTAL	126(100%)

TABLE – 2

Knowledge of types of Emergency contraception methods	Response in(%)
Emergency pills	128(75.3%)
Copper-T	42(24.7%)
Other methods	0
Total	170(100%)
Knowledge of Side effect of emergency Contraceptive usage	Response in (%)
Cause excessive unregulated bleeding	36(34.6%)
Amenorrhea	2(1.9%)
Disruption of menstrual cycle	36(34.6%)
Infertility	22(21.1%)
Others	8(7.6%)
Total	104(100%)

DISCUSSION

According to the current study we found that 43% of females belonging to the age group 22-25 years has knowledge regarding emergency contraceptives. This correlates with the study done at urban slums of Raipur were 51.2% of females of age group 25-34 were aware of contraceptive measures.⁴ In present study the knowledge about emergency contraception in married females was about 75.3% while in similar study at Jabalpur it was found that only 21% of married females had knowledge about emergency contraceptive methods.³

CONCLUSION

Knowledge regarding emergency contraception was satisfactory as almost 70% know it prevents pregnancy after unsafe sex also know about its different types and has some side effects associated with it but most of them (50%) didn't know how to use them.

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