

Knowledge Attitude and Practice of married women regarding ECP and MTP

Suman Lata^{1*}, Ravinder Singh²

¹Maharishi Markandeshwer Institute of Nursing

²Training Coordinator, IDSP, Haryana, India.

Correspondence Address: *Suman Lata, Maharishi Markandeshwer Institute of Nursing.

Abstract

There is a tremendous change in lifestyle, attitudes and sexual dynamics today and women are often confronting situations in which they are caught unaware. The knowledge, attitude and practice of the mother have significant role in safe using of ECP and prevention of MTP. The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of married women in Patiala Punjab who are going to use EC and MTP. The data from 80 married women were obtained. The knowledge of married women was that majority (92.5%) of married women were having poor knowledge more than half 50 (62.5%) of married women having positive attitude and maximum 72 (90%) number of married women were having poor level of practice regarding ECP and MTP. Knowledge of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by age and Family Income per month, Attitude of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by occupation and Practice level of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by religion and occupation. Hence age, family income, occupation and religion should have special knowledge to impart the knowledge of ECP and MTP.

Keywords: ECP (emergency contraceptive pills), MTP (medical termination of pregnancy), married women

Introduction

There is a tremendous change in lifestyle, attitudes and sexual dynamics today and women are often confronting situations in which they are caught unaware¹. The search for an ideal contraceptive which does not interfere with spontaneity or pleasure of the sexual act, yet effectively controls the fertility, is still continuing. Numerous contraceptive techniques are available, yet contraceptive coverage continues to be poor in India. The emergency contraception pill (ECP) was approved and introduced in the National Family Planning Program in 2002

and made available over the counter (OTC) in 2005.² Most of the abortions, especially in the rural areas, are conducted illegally by untrained personal under unhygienic and unsafe condition.³ A considerable proportion of these abortions can be prevented by the timely use of emergency contraception. In India both women and providers are unformed about these methods. EC methods are going to occupy a unique position in range of contraceptive choices currently available to Indian women as these are the only methods couples can use to prevent pregnancy after a contraceptive accident or

unprotected sexual exposure. Easy accessibility to EC will make a huge difference in preventing unwanted pregnancies and deaths due to unsafe abortions, So the researcher felt the need to study Emergency contraception and MTP concepts of family planning.

A study was conducted with the objective of to determine the knowledge, attitude and practices relating to hormonal EC among collegiate girls and their mothers. 100 college girls and their mothers were interviewed using a pre-structured questionnaire.. Age group of the mothers was 38-47 years. Only 34% had heard of EC and 4% of these had used the EC pills. Only 28% felt they would discuss it with their daughters. Age group of the girls was between 18 –23 years. 40% of the girls had heard of EC-20 (50%) through television, 4(10%) from their mothers and 16(40%) through friends.8% of them were married, 2 (25%) has used EC once.70% girls thought it was good for female health and should be freely available to all in medical shops. 80% mothers and 75% girls said promotion of knowledge of EC should be done at college level. Knowledge about EC among the college girls and their mothers was inadequate. Continued information programs and more involvement of health care providers is required.⁴

A survey of the Attitude to, Knowledge and Practice of Contraception and Medical Abortion was conducted in Women Attending a Family Planning Clinic between 1st of August 2005 and 31st of October 2005, 284 women attending family planning clinic were interrogated on a structured questionnaire. The age of women ranged in between 20-45 years, 83 (29.2%) were illiterate, 63 (22.2%) had primary school education and 138 (48.6%) had diplomas from high school and above. They were requested to choose whichever suited them best. Of the women 111 (39.08%) did not use contraception; 108 (38.02%) were on the barrier method; 52 (18.31%) used

intrauterine devices (IUD); 11 (3.87%) used oral pills and and 2 (0.7%) used other methods. The request for MTP was on grounds of unplanned pregnancy in 56.96% cases or failure of contraception in 43.03%. There was no eugenic indication except for ill health in only one case. Of the women, 4 (1.4%) had heard about emergency contraceptives, however none had used them; 22 (7.8%) had heard of medical abortion and 15 (5.28%) had previously undergone MTP with satisfaction. The various methods of contraception accepted by the women post abortion were OCPs by 9 (3.17%), IUDs by 81 (28.5%) and female sterilization by 62 (21.83%). In the other group, 38 (13.38%) had IUDs removed and reinserted; 38 had IUDs inserted; 35 (12.32%) women underwent sterilization operation; and 6 (2.11%) had IUDs removed opting for pregnancy.⁵

Materials and methods

A non experimental survey design was used for study conducted to assess and compare the knowledge, attitude and practices of married women regarding Emergency Contraception and Medical Termination of Pregnancy in selected hospital of Patiala, Punjab. Total 80 married women who were sexually active selected through purposive sampling techniques attending OPD at raiky hospital, Patiala, Punjab. A structured knowledge questionnaire consisting of 30 multiple choice questions with sample characteristics was used to assess the knowledge of married women regarding ECP and MTP. A five point likert's scale consisting of 20 items (10 positive and 10 negative items) with observation checklist of 12 items were used to assess the attitude and practice of married women regarding ECP and MPT respectively. Reliability of the knowledge questionnaire was 0.75 and attitude scale was 0.71, calculated by kudar richardson's formula, hence the tool was found to be reliable. The data collection was done in the month of July 2013.

Analysis of the data was done using SPSS version.16. The level of significance selected was 0.01. Bar Graph and pie chart were used to depict the finding.

Results

The maximum number 30(37.5%) of married women belonged to 18-26 yrs age group followed by 26 (32.5%) and 14 (17.5%) in the age group of 27-35 and 36-44 yrs respectively and the least 10 (12.5%) were found in the age group of > 45 Years.

Majority 38 (47.5%) and 32 (40%) of the married women belongs to Sikh and Hindu religion respectively followed by 6 (7.5%) married women from Christian religion and the least 4 (5%) were from Muslim religion. Most of the married women 18 (22.5%) were illiterate followed by education up to secondary 16 (20%), higher secondary 16 (20%), primary 14 (17.5%) and Graduate 10 (12.5%) and the least 6 (7.5%) married women were educated up to post graduate level.

Maximum 42 (52.5%) married women were from urban area and having nuclear family whereas the least 38 (47.5%) were from rural area and from joint family respectively. Majority 64 (82.5%) of the married women were house wife followed by 8 (10%) of married women having private job and the least 6 (7.5%) were having Govt job.

Most 30 (37.7%) of married women belong the group with family income rupees 1001-5000 and rupees 5001-10,000 respectively followed by 14 (17.5%) from the group with family income rupees 10,001-15,000 and the least 4 (5%) and 2 (2.5%) were from the group with family income \leq rupees 1000 and rupees 15,001-20,000 respectively.

Majority (92.5%) of married women were having poor knowledge regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy whereas 7.5% married women show fair knowledge scores regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy. And no

married women were having good or excellent knowledge regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy.

More than half 50 (62.5%) of married women having positive attitude whereas 30 (37.5%) married women have negative attitude regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy.

Only 6 (7.5%) of married women were having good level of practice and 2 (2.5%) were having fair level of practice whereas maximum 72 (90%) number of married women were having poor level of practice regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy.

The relationship between Knowledge and Attitude & Attitude and Practice of married women was found to be weak positive correlation i.e., 0.27 & 0.26. Whereas the relationship between Attitude and Practice of married women was found to be very weak positive correlation i.e., 0.27.

Age and family income per month (in rupees) have significant association with the level of knowledge of married women regarding ECP and MTP whereas religion, educational status, type of family, place of residence and occupation have no significant association with the knowledge of married women regarding family income per month.

Occupation have significant association at 0.01 level of significance with the level of Attitude of married women regarding ECP and MTP whereas age, religion, educational status, type of family and place of residence have no significant association with the Attitude of married women regarding family income per month.

Religion and occupation have significant association with the practice score of married women regarding ECP and MTP whereas age, educational status, type of family, place of residence and family income per month (in rupees) have no significant association with the knowledge of married women regarding family income per month.

Hence it can be concluded that knowledge of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by age and Family Income per month and Attitude of married women

regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by occupation and Practice level of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by religion and occupation.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage Distribution of Women as per their sample/demographic characteristics (N=80).

Sr. No	Sample Characteristics	Married women	
		Frequency f	Percentage %
1	Age (in Years)		
	A 18-26	30	37.5
	B 27-35	26	32.5
	C 36-44	14	17.5
	D > 45	10	12.5
2	Religion		
	A Hindu	32	40
	B Muslim	4	5
	C Sikh	38	47.5
	D Christian	6	7.5
	E Others (specify)	0	0
3	Educational status		
	A Illiterate	18	22.5
	B Primary	14	17.5
	C Secondary	16	20
	D Higher secondary	16	20
	E Graduate	10	12.5
	F Post graduate & above	6	7.5
4	Type of family		
	A Nuclear	42	52.5
	B Joint	38	47.5
	C Extended	0	0
5	Place of residence		
	A Rural	42	52.5
	B Urban	38	47.5
6	Occupation		
	A Private job	8	10
	B Govt. job	6	7.5
	C Business	0	0
	D Laborer	0	0
	E House wife	66	82.5
7	Family income per month		
	A ≤ 1000 Rs.	4	5
	B 1001 - 5000 Rs.	30	37.7
	C 5001 - 10000 Rs.	30	37.5
	D 10001 - 15000 Rs.	14	17.5
	E 15001 - 20000 Rs.	2	2.5
	F ≥ 20001 Rs.	0	0

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage distribution of married women in terms of Knowledge score on Knowledge Questionnaire (N=80).

Levels of Knowledge	Married women			
	Frequency	Percentage	Range	Percentage
	f	%	0-n	%
Excellent	0	0	16-20	80-100%
Good	0	0	13-16	65-80%
Fair	6	7.5	10-13	50-65%
Poor	74	92.5	0-10	0-50%

Table 3: Frequency and Percentage distribution of married women in terms of Attitude score on Likert Scale (N=80).

Married women			
Attitude	Range	Frequency f	Percentage %
Positive	≥ 60	50	62.5
Negative	<60	30	37.5

Table 4: Frequency and Percentage distribution of married women in terms of Level of Practice on Practice checklist (N=80).

Married women				
Practice	Range	Percentage	Frequency f	Percentage %
Good	10-14	75-100	6	7.5
Fair	7-10	50-75	2	2.5
Poor	0-7	0-50	72	90

Table 5: Correlation Computed between Knowledge and Attitude, Attitude and Practice & knowledge and Practice of married women regarding Emergency Contraceptive and Medical Termination of Pregnancy (N=80).

Knowledge and Attitude Score			
Relationship	Maximum Score	Mean	“r”
Knowledge	20	7.15	0.27
Attitude	100	61.62	
Attitude	100	61.62	0.08
Practice	14	4.07	
Knowledge	20	7.15	0.16
Practice	14	4.07	

Table 6: ANOVA Value showing relationship of Sample Characteristics and Knowledge Score (N=80).

		Knowledge Score							
S.No.	Sample Characteristics	Mean	S.D.	ANOVA					
					SS	df	MS	F	p
1	Age (In yrs)								
a.	18-26	6.6	1.5	Between	24.71	3	8.23	3.95	0.01
b.	27-35	7.6	1.7						
c.	36-44	7.8	1.0	Within	160.3	77	2.08		
d.	> 45	6.6	0.8						
2.	Religion				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	Hindu	7	1.67	Between	15.6	3	5.21	2.08	0.10 ^{NS}
b.	Muslim	5.5	0.7						
c.	Sikh	7.47	1.64	Within	192.0	77	2.50		
d.	Christian	7	1.73						
e.	Others (specify)	0	0						
3.	Educational Status				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	Illiterate	7	1.94	Between	15.34	5	3.07	1.46	0.21 ^{NS}
b.	Primary	7.75	1.38						
c.	Secondary	7	0.75	Within	154.9	74	2.09		
d.	Higher secondary	6.77	1.20						
e.	Graduate	6.6	1.94						
f.	Post graduate & above	8	1.4						
4.	Type of family				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	Nuclear	7.09	1.37	Between	0.07	1	0.07	0.031	0.86 ^{NS}
b.	Joint	7.15	1.67	Within	180.1	78	2.31		
c.	Extended	0	0						
5.	Place of residence				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	Rural	7.14	1.15	Between	0.032	1	0.03	0.014	0.90 ^{NS}
b.	Urban	7.10	1.85	Within	180.8	78	2.31		
6.	Occupation				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	Private job	7.6	1.63	Between	2.55	2	1.28	0.54	0.58 ^{NS}
b.	Govt. job	7.3	2.3						
c.	Business	0	0	Within	181.7	77	2.36		
d.	Labourer	0	0						
e.	House wife	7.03	1.45						
7.	Family income Per Month (in Rupees)				SS	df	MS	F	p
a.	≤ 1000	6	0	Between	42.75	4	10.6	6.94	0.00
b.	1001 - 5000	6.7	1.03						
c.	5001 - 10000	7	1.6	Within	115.3	75	1.58		
d.	10001-15000	8.4	0.89						
e.	15001-20000	9.25	0.25						

Conclusion

From the above study it can be concluded that majority (92.5%) of married women were having poor knowledge regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy respectively.

More than half 50 (62.5%) of married women having positive attitude regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy.

Very few i.e., only 6 (7.5%) of married women were having good level of practice regarding emergency contraception and medical termination of pregnancy.

The relationship between Knowledge and Attitude & Attitude and Practice of married women was found to be weak positive correlation i.e., 0.27 & 0.26. Whereas the relationship between Attitude and Practice of married women was found to be very weak positive correlation i.e., 0.27.

Knowledge of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by age and Family Income per month and Attitude of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by occupation and Practice level of married women regarding ECP and MTP was influenced by religion and occupation.

Hence all married women must be educated regarding ECP and MTP.

References

- 1) http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2007-12-20/india/27965089_1_unsafe-abortions-emergency-contraception-ec-pills.
- 2) Khan M. E. et al. Key opinion leaders' views regarding emergency contraception in India. Population Council. Programme brief. February 2012.
- 3) Dhillon B S et al. Induced abortion and concurrent adoption of contraception in the rural areas of India (An ICMR task force study). Division of Reproductive Health and Nutrition, Indian Council of Medical Research. 2004. Volume : 58 Issue : 11: 478-484.
- 4) Mital P, Hooja N.M., Knowledge, Attitude And Practices Relating To Emergency Contraception Among College Girls And Their Mothers, The Internet Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics ISSN: 1528-8439, 2012 Volume 16 Number 1.
- 5) Mittal Suneeta et al. Survey of the Attitude to, Knowledge and Practice of Contraception and Medical Abortion in Women Attending a Family Planning Clinic. Journal Turkish German Gynaecological Association. Vol. 9(1): 2008:29-34.