

The purpose of this study is to investigate the pattern of sex resumption after childbirth among Thai women as well as demographic and socio-economic factors related to the resumption of sex after childbirth. The data used in this study derive from Thailand Demographic and Health Survey 1987 (TDHS). The sample for this study represents the married women aged 15-49 who have lastbirth within 5 years before the survey, that is from January 1988 to the date of the survey. The total cases are 2,989. The life table approach is used to obtain an estimate of cumulative proportion of sex resumption after childbirth.

This study finds that the general pattern of sex resumption after childbirth among thai women. That is 94.4 percent of mothers have sex resumption after childbirth within 12 months and 19.3 percent within 2 months. The median duration of sex resumption is about 3 months. It also finds a distinctive pattern of the relationship between the resumption of sex after childbirth within 2 months and these demographic factors : age at last birth, duration of marriage, everuse of contraception, return of menstruation after childbirth and breastfeeding. In addition, quick resumption of sex after childbirth is found in mothers of low age at lastbirth, with short duration of marriage, everusing contraception, breastfeeding and without the return yet of menstruation.

Regarding the pattern of the relationship between resumption of sex after childbirth and socio-economic factors which are religion, residential areas, region, dialects, current occupations, and household possessions, it is found in each factor that the respondents who resume sex after childbirth within 2 months are Buddhists, those living in urban areas, living in the North, speaking northern and northeastern dialects, in the agricultural sector working and with few household possessions. And when the dialect variable is controled by everuse, of contraception, the same relationship is found.

Studying the relationship of resupmtion of sex after childbirth within 2 months with the number of living children and educational level, the study finds that the resumption of sex after childbirth of mothers who have few children and low educational level may be either quick or slow. In addition, the same relationship is found for the number of living children when controled by age at last birth.