

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this prospective study is to analysis the demographic, socioeconomic and other factors which influence the acceptance of postpartum sterilization in the women, who had three or more children, delivered in Buriram provincial hospitals during June 1, 1986 to July 31, 1986. These women were interviewed during their postpartum stay in the hospitals. There were 318 women of which 174 underwent postpartum sterilization and 144 did not.

All data were analyzed by percentage occurrence, arithmetic mean, standard deviation and idiscriminant analysis using stepwise method.

Both groups have used contraception before (83.3 percent in sterilized and 79.2 percent in non sterilized groups respectively popular method was the oral contraceptive pill followedly the injectable and IUD

In the sterilized group, the reasons were having enough children (97.2 percent), economic factors (78.2 percent) and hushand actively encouraged (73.0 percent)

94.8 percent of husbands and viwes decided together to have sterilization done, of which 87.4 percent decided while they were at home and only 12.6 percent decided during their stay in hospital.

In the non sterilized group the reasons were husband's objection (66.0 percent), fear of operation (54.3 percent), fear of subsequent complications of sterilized (42.4 percent), and wanting more children (32.6 percent). But on further enquire, 63.1 percent would have sterilization done in the future and only definitely not.

In this study it was found that the most important factors, which influenced the sterilization were the husband's attitude toward sterilization, wanting additional children, believe about complication of sterilization, fear of operation and maternal age. Number of living children, sex of living children, education, occupation, family income per year and exposure to mass media were not significant factors. This discriminant function can classify correctly 92.10 percent.