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SYED IHTRAM SHABBIR: ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACEPTIVES
AMONG MARRIED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN
PUTTHAMONTHON DISTRICT, NAKHON PATHOM PROVINCE, THAILAND.
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A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted on acceptance of contraceptives among married women of reproductive age in Putthamonthon district, Nakhon Pathom province, Thailand.

One hundred and seventy seven married women of reproductive age 15-44 years were interviewed by using structured questionnaire during 28th of March and 10th April 2000. From the result, it was found that the majority of the respondents were between the age of 25-35 years. More than half of the married women 63.3 % had primary schooling. Most of them were at low-income level (48.6%), 32.2 % of them had duration of marriage between 11-20 years and 41.2 % had one living child.

Concerning the knowledge of contraceptive use, it has been observed that the majority of the women representing 89.3% had a fair knowledge. Concerning attitude towards contraceptive use, it was found that despite having fair knowledge about contraceptives 89.3%, the majority of women, 89.8% had a negative attitude towards contraceptive use. This type of finding might be due to the small sample size.

In this study service delivery facility, distance, communication, transportation and cost of the contraceptive had been focused on to determine the availability and accessibility of contraceptives. It was found that health centers were the main sources of contraceptives representing 42.85%, followed by community hospitals 32.13 % and village health volunteers 16.66 %. Regarding distance from residence of respondents to the service center, it was found that the majority of women 43.45% were living close to where they could get the service within 2 km. With respect to the mode of travelling to the service center 30.95 % of the respondents went to the contraceptive service center by public transportation. About convenience of travelling to the service centers 58.33 % of the respondents felt convenient. With regards to the economic aspect of the contraceptive use it was indicated that 68.45 % of the married women had to pay for the contraceptive service. About satisfaction of the respondents it was showed that 97.61 % of them were satisfied with different aspects concerning contraceptive services.

The major finding of this study revealed that the majority of the respondents representing 79.7 % were currently using contraceptives. The most popular contraceptive methods used were oral pill and injection. There was statistically significant relationship between acceptance of contraceptives and duration of marriage, number of living children and the source of contraceptives.