

: MAJOR COMMUNITY MEDICINE
KEY WORD: CONTINUATION NORPLANT

KOSOL SAEREERATNAKORN CONTINUATION AND DISCONTINUATION OF
NORPLANT USERS IN AMPHOE WARIN CHAMRAP UBON RATCHA THANI PROVINCE.
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The purposes of this study are to find out the rate of new users of Norplants in the governmental fiscal year 1991, The rate of continuation, as well as discontinuation of the use, the reasons for the use, continuation and discontinuation of the use, and to study relationships between various factors and the continuation of Norplant usage. The studied population were all of the woman in Warin Chamrap district of Ubon Ratchathani province who were in productive age and were the new users of Norplant in the fiscal year 1991. The data were collected in October and November 1993 by interviewing 240 out of 252 users.

It was found that the Norplant users mostly aged between 26-45 years (51.0%). Most of the users were farmer (78.3%) and had the highest educational level at Prathom 4 (92.9%). Most of them had one or two children (67.5%). The rate of new users of Norplant in fiscal year 1991 was 2.5%. The rate of continuation of use at 3, 6, 12, 18 and 24 months after implantation were 99.6%, 96.3%, 90.8%, 80.0% and 74.5% respectively. The most frequently found reasons for use were the effective duration of Norplant and its convenience (61.2%). The most common reason for continuation of use was that the users did not want to have new babies (62.5%). The side effects of Norplant were most commonly found to be the reasons for discontinuation of use (67.5%). They included headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting (39.5%). Less common ones were menorrhagia (18.6%), weight loss and fatigue (16.3%). The rate of discontinuation of the use of Norplant within 3 months, 4 to 6 months, 7 to 12 months, 13 to 18 months and 19 to 24 months were 0.4%, 3.3%, 5.4%, 14.3% and 7.7% respectively. Furthermore, the study showed that a headache, a nausea, a weight change, a menstrual pattern and satisfaction with Norplant had statistically significant associations with the continuation of Norplant usage ($p < 0.05$).