

Knowledge and Satisfaction toward Oral Contraceptive and Intrauterine Device Use among Women in Nablus-Palestine

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Abstract:

Introduction: Societies in both the developing and developed world suffer from unacceptably high rates of unintended and unwanted pregnancies, despite the availability of safe and effective forms of contraception

Objectives of the study: The main objective of our study was to estimate knowledge and satisfaction toward oral contraceptive (OCP) or intrauterine device (IUD) use among women in Nablus-Palestine.

Methods: A cross-sectional questionnaire based study design that was conducted at the Governmental Primary Clinics that deal with maternity and child care, Rafedia Governmental Hospital, and the Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association at Nablus – Palestine. Data collection was achieved by face-to-face interviews during the period of study between August 2014 and January 2015. The data collection form involves: socio-demographic characteristics, medication and reason for choosing, knowledge about contraceptive, satisfaction and side effects.

Results: A total of 287 women were included. 182 of them use IUD and 105 use OCP. Out of 105 women used OCP 64 (61%) of them use OCP because it is easy to use, compared with women using IUD, 115 out of 182 women (63.2%) using this way because of its efficacy in preventing pregnancy. Regarding the knowledge about OCP use, 69% knew what to do if they forget to take their pill. However, a low percentage of OCP users knew what to do in case of vomiting or diarrhea. For women using IUD, 88.5% knew that IUD is safe and effective. While a low level of knowledge was observed regarding the expected failure rate of IUD (22.5%), the proper time for replacing IUD (8.6% for Copper and 2.6% for hormonal IUD), and how quickly fertility returns (34.6%). Regarding the overall satisfaction rating of both IUD and OCP, the majority of IUD users 121 (66.5%) reported a good overall satisfaction rate. In addition, the majority of OCP users 72 (86.6%) reported a good overall satisfaction rate. Regarding the side effect of (OCP), most women suffer from gaining weight (46.7%), regarding to IUD the most common side effect is heavy period 54.9%.

Conclusion:women have low to moderate level of necessary knowledge about the use of either OCP or IUD. However, good level of overall satisfaction was reported by the study participants. On the other hand, weigh gain, nervousness and leg pain were the most complaints from women using OCP; while heavy period, leg pain and headache were the most complaints from women using IUD.