# Knowledge, Attitude, Practice Regarding IUCD as Postpartum Method of Contraception in Antenatal Women

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#### 1. Introduction

- In developing countries, about 60% of births occur at an interval less than 36 months.
- Post partum period is a period when women are more receptive for family planning methods. If a contraceptive is provided prior to discharge from the hospital, then the couple need not return for contraception again.
- An IUCD inserted within 48 hours post partum, referred to as post partum intra uterine contraceptive device.
- This study was undertaken to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of post partum intra uterine contraceptive device in antenatal patients in tertiary care centre.



#### 2. Aims and Objectives

To assess the knowledge, attitude and practices regarding the usage of IUCD as a post partum contraceptive device amongst antenatal women.

## 3. Materials and Methods

This is an observational study amongst 200 antenatal women over a period of 3 months from April 2023 to June 2023

**Inclusion criteria:** Antenatal women attending antenatal clinic and labour room who were educated and counselled about IUCD as a post partum method of contraception.

Exclusion criteria - Women not giving consent for the study.

A Pre designed questionnaire was filled for each woman with the help of resident doctor or an intern after taking consent for the study

Total number of women included in the study was 200, out of which 54 % women (108 in number) had prior knowledge about IUCD



Out of the 200 women, majority of the people (98 in number and 49%) belonged to age group of 25 to 35 years, 14 women (7%) belonged to age group of >35 years and 44% (88 in number) belonged to age group of 18 to 25 years.



47% of women (40 in number) belonging to age group of 18 to 25 years, 41% of women (42 in number) belonging to age group of 25 to 35 years and 35% of women (5 women) of age group of >35 years had prior knowledge regarding IUCD.



10 women (29%) who were illiterate, 43% of women with educational status below  $10^{\text{th}}$  standard (86 in number), 57% of women with educational status between  $10^{\text{th}}$  to  $12^{\text{th}}$ 

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standard, 62% of women who were graduates had prior knowledge about IUCD



Patients willing for IUCD insertion after delivery was 39% - (78 in number) and 61% (122 in number) were not willing for IUCD insertion



The main reason for acceptance of IUCD amongst the women (N = 78) was that it is a reversible method of contraception. (43.5% - 34 in number). The other reasons for IUCD acceptance was –

- 1) No interference with breast feeding (23% 18 in number)
- 2) Safe and reliable method of contraception (20.5% 16 in number)
- 3) Long term usage (12.8% 10 in number)



The main reason for denial of IUCD amongst the women (N = 122) was the fear of bleeding and pain (44.2% - 54 in number). The other reasons for IUCD denial was -

- 1) Desire for other contraceptive methods (26.2 % 32 in number)
- 2) Family refusal (19% 24 in number)
- 3) Fear of expulsion (8% 1 in number)



# 4. Conclusion

- This study concludes that antenatal women had poor knowledge regarding PPIUCD and poor practices too.
- This might be attributed to low educational status, refusal by family and lack of awareness regarding merits of IUCD. But once appropriate knowledge and information is provided, the attitude gradually changes.
- Antenatal period and childbirth are definitely a good opportunity for a woman to acquire knowledge regarding contraceptives as they are very receptive during this period.

Due attention should be given for enhancing educational level of women and effective PPIUCD Counselling should be given during ANC Visits to correct misconceptions and wrong beliefs of women regarding PPIUCD

## References

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