Thesis Title: Use of contraceptive methods among married women of reproductive age, at Myloc District, Namdinh city, Vietnam

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ABSTRACT

This cross-sectional descriptive study is being conducted among married women of reproductive age in 10 villages of Myloc District, Namdinh City, Vietnam, on the use of contraceptive methods with the aim to identify the socio-demographic factors, psycho-social factors and availability, accessibility factors related to the use of contraceptive methods. Three hundred and twenty respondents were selected purposively and interviewed by using structured questionnaires during January 2002.

The result revealed that the prevalence rate of contraceptive use (77.2%) were currently using contraceptive methods, the most popular methods used were IUD (78.1%). Female sterilization and other methods such as the oral pill, injection, and condoms have a low acceptance rate among users. The majority of the respondents were between 26-35 years of age, and they were farmers. More than half of the women had secondary school education. 45.6% had been of married more than 10 years, 71% had an income between 400,000-600,000VND. More than half of respondents had 2 living children, with 1 son and slightly lower proportion had 1 daughter. 28.4% of them wanted additional children, a son being a strong preference, and the expectation to live with their sons when they became elderly. Concerning the knowledge and attitude towards contraceptive use, it was observed that almost half of the respondents had a fair knowledge and a negative attitude. It was found that the Government sector were the main sources of contraceptive service. Most of them were living close to where they could get the service, less than 5 km. The mode of travel to the service center was mainly private vehicle, and 89.1% found it was convenient. Most of respondents received information from health personnel in hospital and health center, as well as from radio and television of which 98.4% perceived that it was effective. Almost all respondents expressed their satisfaction with different aspects concerning contraceptive services. It was found that there was a statistically significant relationship between the use of contraceptive methods and age of married women, occupation, education level, duration of marriage, monthly income, number of living children, number of living son and daughter, desire for addition children, sex of children preference, husband’s agreement, knowledge, attitude toward of contraceptive, source of service, distance, convenience of service, effectiveness of information, source of information and satisfaction of contraceptive service.

From this study it is recommended that the government should have more suitable strategies to make married women of reproductive age believe in family planning methods and also have a proper decision with their situations, especially for women in rural areas.