

Contraceptive behavior among women after abortion in Nepal.

Padmadas SS1, Lyons-Amos M2, Thapa S3.

Author information

1Department of Social Statistics and Demography, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK; Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK. Electronic address: s.padmadas@soton.ac.uk.

2ESRC Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK; Department of Quantitative Social Science, Institute of Education, University of London, London, UK.

3Nepal Public Health Foundation, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Abstract

OBJECTIVE:

To investigate the timing of contraceptive use and estimate the discontinuation rates of temporary methods among women after abortion, or a live birth or stillbirth.

METHODS:

A sample of married women with detailed pregnancy and contraceptive histories was analyzed in a population-based cross-sectional study based on calendar data extracted from the 2011 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey. Kaplan-Meier cumulative and discrete-time hazard models were used to estimate the timing of contraceptive use and discontinuation rates among users of temporary methods.

RESULTS:

The final analysis sample included 3190 women. Of 684 women who had had an abortion, 298 (43.6%) had not initiated any contraceptive use in the 12 months afterwards. Women initiated contraceptive use significantly earlier after abortion (hazard ratio [HR] 2.25; 95% CI, 1.96-2.59; $P < 0.001$). The rate of discontinuation among contraceptive users was significantly higher in the postabortion group (HR 1.32; 95% CI, 1.05-1.65; $P < 0.05$). Women who were educated, wealthier, had used contraceptives before the index pregnancy, had two sons and had autonomy initiated contraceptive use significantly earlier in the post-abortion period than their counterparts.

CONCLUSION:

Postabortion contraceptive use is low in Nepal. Postabortion family-planning counseling and related services should be strengthened with systematic monitoring and follow-up interventions.

Copyright © 2014 International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics. Published by Elsevier Ireland Ltd. All rights reserved.

KEYWORDS:

Abortion; Calendar data; Contraceptive discontinuation; Contraceptive use; Demographic and Health Surveys; Nepal

PMID: 25047427 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]