



# Pattern of Contraceptive Use Among Women Attending Family Planning Clinic in Kirkuk Governmental Hospitals, Kirkuk-Iraq

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## Abstract

Contraceptive is a device which prevents women from becoming pregnant; it is a reversible method in preventing pregnancy. To show the type of contraceptive used by women attending family planning clinic in Kirkuk. This study was carried on 94 females attending family planning clinics in Kirkuk hospitals to determine types of contraceptives used by them. Among 94 women included in this study, the age of majority of women were ranging from 35 and above, the highest percentage had 2 parity, the commonest contraceptive used was condom followed by IUD, injection and tablets.

**Keywords:** contraceptive, women, Kirkuk.

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## أستخدام موائع الحمل لدى النساء المراجعات لعيادة تنظيم الاسرة في مستشفىات كركوك الحكومية ١ كركوك-العراق

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### الملخص

موائع الحمل هي عبارة عن أدوات تستخدم لمنع حدوث الحمل، اجريت هذه الدراسة لبيان أنواع الموائع المستخدمة عند النساء المراجعات لعيادات تنظيم الاسرة في مستشفىات كركوك ...

شملت الدراسة عينات من النساء اللاتي تتراوح أعمارهن من 15- 35 سنة فما فوق. أظهرت النتائج بأن أعلى نسبة من النساء اللاتي تستخدمن الموائع كان ضمن الفئة العمرية 35 سنه فما فوق بنسبة 40%， بينما كانت أعلى نسبة المستخدمات الموائع وعلاقتها بعدد الأنجاب كان لدى النساء اللاتي انجبن طفلين 31.9%， أما بالنسبة لنوع المانع المستخدم فان أعلى نسبة كانت الواقي الذكري أي نسبة 50% تم استخدامه من قبل الزوجين تلاها استخدام اللولب الرحمي بنسبة 28.7%， وأخيراً فقد تم احتساب عمر المرأة مع عدد الأطفال حيث تبين اكبر عدد من النساء المبحوثات قد انجبن طفلين واعمارهن 35 سنه فما فوق

الكلمات الدالة: منع الحمل، النساء، كركوك.

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## 1. Introduction:

Family planning indicates the ability of couples to expect and achieve wished number of children through arranging interval between their births by means of contraception [1]. Fertility control is practiced through different parts of the world, its decision is made by couple, it is often of religious or rational convinces [2]. Contraception are widely used by couples for different purposes, such as to limit the family size and to avoid child bearing which may have adverse effect on illness exists of pregnancy [3]. Several underdeveloped countries encourage contraceptive to stop undesired growth of population [4]. The acceptance of contraceptive method varies within and between societies and different religious group [5]. Among different methods of contraception used in different societies are oral pill which is widely used method, injection, female sterilization, male sterilization, IUDs and implants. The use of different contraceptives varies by educational status of women and their wealth status [6].

The rate of contraceptive user varies in different countries. It has been reported that overall 61% of currently married women in Bangladesh are using contraceptive, which are mainly oral pills followed by injection and others [6]. In Iraq, Abid *et al.*, [7] carried out a study in Al-Sheikh Omar Health Centre in Baghdad on 539 women to show the reason for attending family planning clinic and which types of contraceptive preferred by them. They found that 65.3% of women preferred oral contraceptive pills; 56.2 % were refusing pregnancy due to economic difficulty and several medical reasons especially anemia. In Najaf province, Al-Asadi *et al.* [8] studied sample of 120 women attending family planning devices, they reported that (32.5%) using IUD, 2.5% using Condom. The age of majority users were ranging from 30-40 years.

## 2. Methods:

A cross sectional study was carried out in Family planning clinics in Kirkuk hospitals (Kirkuk Azadi Teaching Hospital and Kirkuk General Hospital) for the period from first of February to end of May 2018, on a total of 94 female attending family planning clinic. Their age were ranging from 15-40 years old. Data were collected from registration records of the clinic and analyzed through percentages. The information included age, number of children and type of contraception used.

### 3. Statistical Analysis:

Statistical analysis was carried out using statistically available SOFTWARE (SPSS version 18) to show significant difference between different groups at (0.05).

### 4. Results:

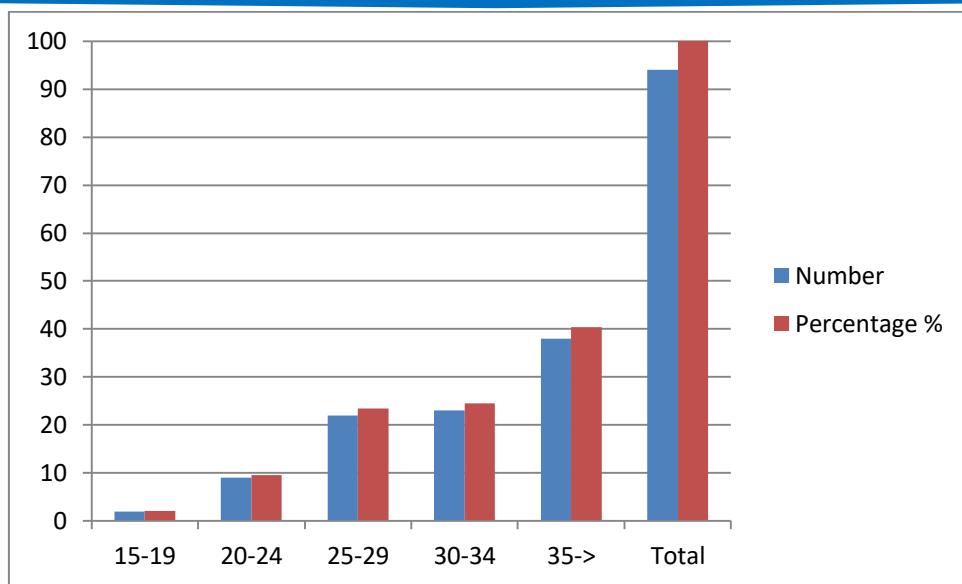
**Table 1** and. **Fig. 1 a &b.** shows the frequency of women according to age groups and parity. The age of 94 women included in the present study were ranging from 15 to above 35 years old. The majority of women were in the age group 35 and above (40.4). Others were 24.5%, 23.4%, 9.6% and 2.1% at age groups 30-34, 25-29, 20-24 and 15-19 respectively. Regarding the parity, the highest percentage of women had 2 parity (31.9%), followed by 3(25.5%), 4(24.5%), 5(9.6%) and 6 or over (3.2%) respectively.

**Table 1:** The frequency of women according to age and parity.

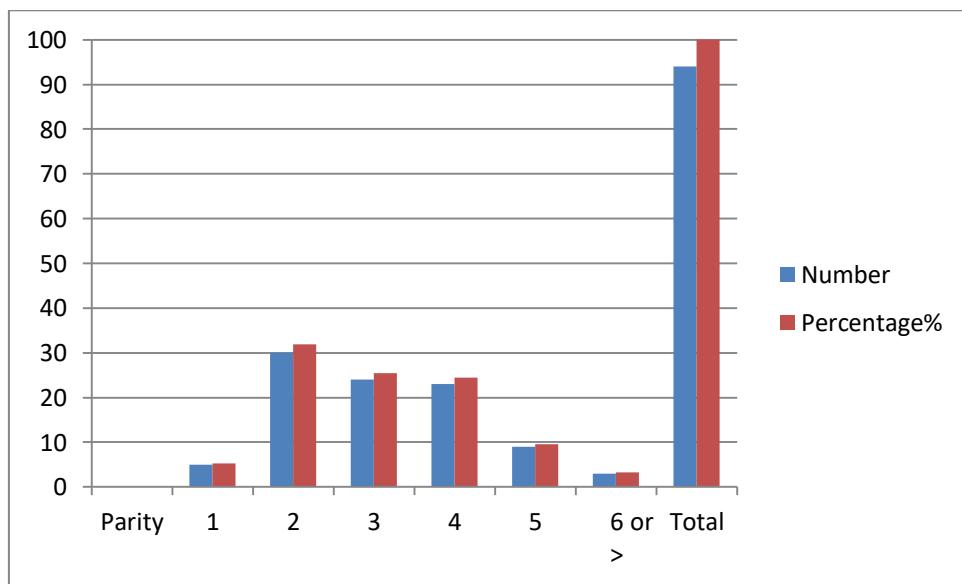
Age/year	Number	Percentage %
15-19	2	2.1
20-24	9	9.6
25-29	22	23.4
30-34	23	24.5
35->	38	40.4
Total	94	100

Parity	Number	Percentage%
1	5	5.3
2	30	31.9
3	24	25.5
4	23	24.5
5	9	9.6
6 or >	3	3.2
Total	94	100



**Fig. 1a:** The frequency of women according to age.

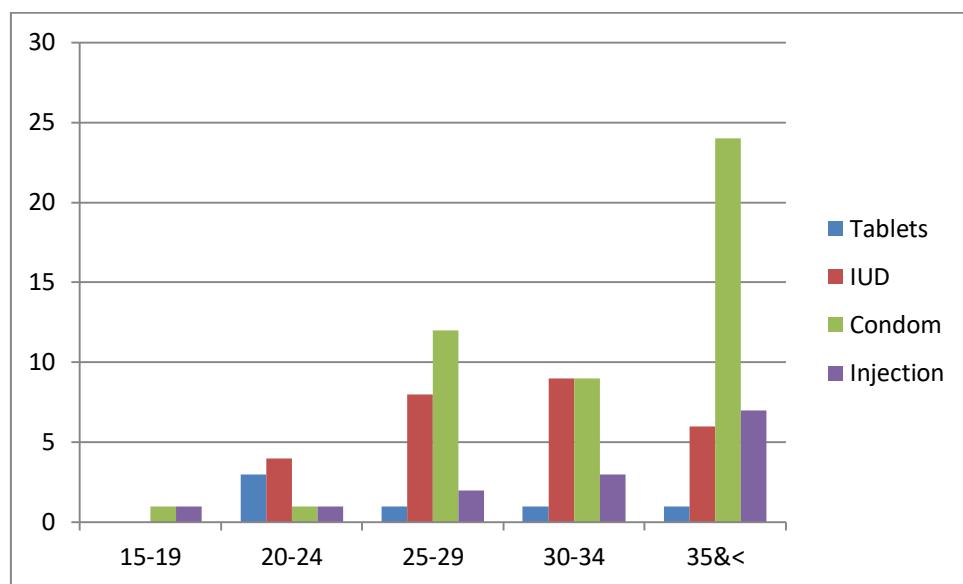


**Fig. 1b:** The frequency of women according to parity.

Table 2 and Fig. 2 shows that the majority of studied group of women were using condom contraceptive [50%], followed by IUD [28.7%], injection [14.9%] and the least one was tablets [6.4%] respectively. Statistically there was significant difference between groups ( $P<0.05$ ).

**Table 2: Distribution of women according to the type of contraception use.**

Age/CC	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35&<	Total
<b>Tablets</b>	0	3	1	1	1	6[6.4%]
<b>IUD</b>	0	4	8	9	6	27[28.7%]
<b>Condom</b>	1	1	12	9	24	47[50.0%]
<b>Injection</b>	1	1	2	3	7	14[14.9%]
<b>Total</b>	2 [2.1%]	9 [9.6%]	23 [24.5%]	22 [23.4%]	38 [40.4%]	94


**Fig. 2: Distribution of women according to type of contraception use.**

Distribution of parity according to age group is indicated in **Table 3**, women at age group 15-19 years had 1 or 2 parity; while the majority in age groups 20-24 and 25-29 years had 2 parity. At age groups 30-34 years old the highest parity was 2, 3, and 4 being 6, in older age group over 35 the majority had 4 parity. The most common parity group was 2 children and the lowest was women with 6 children. Statistically there was significant difference between age groups ( $P<0.05$ ).

**Table 3:** Distribution of parity according to age groups.

Age	Parity					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or >
<b>15-19</b>	1 (20%)	1 (3.3%)	0	0	0	0
<b>20-24</b>	0	6 (20%)	3 (12.5%)	0	0	0
<b>25-29</b>	4 (80%)	9 (30%)	5 (20.8%)	3 (13.0%)	1 (11.1%)	0
<b>30-34</b>	0	6 (20%)	6 (25%)	6 (26.1%)	3 (33.3%)	2 (66.7%)
<b>35-&gt;</b>	0	8 (26.6%)	10 (41.6%)	14 (60.8%)	5 (55.5%)	1 (33.3%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>percentage</b>	5.3%	31.9%	25.5%	24.5%	9.6%	3.2%

Table 4 shows that the majority of women among studied group were using condom as contraceptive. Women with one parity preferred to use condom (4); most two parity women used equally IUD and condom (11) followed by injection and tablets (4) for each; three parity women mainly used condom (13) followed by IUD (7), injection (2) and the least was tablets (1); most four parity women used condom (16) followed by injection (4), IUD (3); fifth parity women used mainly IUD (4) followed by condom (3) and injection (2) while women over 5 parity use condom (2) followed by tablets (1). Analysis of variance showed significant difference between the variables ( $P<0.05$ ).

**Table 4:** Correlation between parity and types of contraception.

Parity	Tablets	IUD	Condom	Injection	Total
1	1	0	4	1	6
2	4	11	11	4	30
3	1	7	13	2	23
4	0	3	16	4	23
5	0	4	3	2	9
5->	1	0	2	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>13</b>	
<b>Percentage</b>	7.4%	26.6%	52.1%	13.8%	

## **5. Discussion:**

This cross sectional study was performed to know the pattern of contraceptive used among women of different ages attending family planning clinics in Kirkuk. In the studied group women most of them who referred to PHC were multiparous who desired to use contraceptive to limit their family size and spaced child birth [6].

In this study the age of majority of women was between 25-30 years and followed by above 35 years using contraceptives, while women of age group 16- 19 years old were few. This finding is almost identical to that reported by Rahman [6], Abid *et al* [7] and Wellings et al. [9] reported that the highest rate of women using contraceptive were aging between late twenties and early thirties. This finding of this study is in contrast to that reported in Panama, which showed the highest age group was 17-25 [10].

Although the tablets user of women were low rate, while the majority were using condom. The low tablets user in this study probably due to lack of knowledge and related to educational status of population, it is efficient method of family planning when used correctly. Its advantages are very active regulating period, decreasing menstrual flow, decreasing probability of ectopic pregnancy protecting the women from certain diseases such as certain malignancy in addition to that it has effect on breast feeding. It is possible that women dislike pills or tablets, it may lead to headache, obesity, psychological distress, heart attacks and hypertension alternatively with rare breast pain [11; 12].

The contraceptive method used varies within and between societies and with different ethnic group and religions in different socio-economic status [13]. The high rate of condom use in this study may be due to availability of condoms free of charge as intrauterine device and oral contraceptive at official family planning clinic in Iraq [14, 15], similarly in Iran [16].

In this study the rate of IUD used women were 28.7%, this rate is Almost identical to that reported by Abid *et al.* [7] Sheikh Omar health center, in Baghdad this might be due to studied group of women believe that IUD is safe. The advantages of IUD were reasonable cheap, safe coitus without interruption [11]. The disadvantages of IUD show heavy of monthly period, increase uterine contraction during period and pregnancy and bleeding [8]. The finding of this study is not in agreement with that reported by Megid *et al.* [17] who reported 93% of women were using IUD; 5% using pills, 2% were using Condom. While



Aninyel *et al.* [18] indicated that 61.3% of responding women using Condom, while oral contraceptive and IUD 76%.

## 6. Conclusions and Recommendations:

From the finding of this study it is concluded that most attendants were aging between 35 and above and most women were had 2 parity. Condom was constituted the most commonly used method for contraception.

Further studies are recommended on a community base to show the real picture of primary Health Care in Kirkuk and other parts of the country. There is a need to provide accessible and modern Family planning services through all primary health care services in all districts of Kirkuk. The community, such as women's should participate in education programs about modern types advantages and disadvantages of each type of contraception.

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