

First pregnancy: reproductive choice in youth

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The aim of the study is to determine the occurrence of first abortion, the post-abortion contraception choice and the quality of post-abortion care in youth.

Method: 221 women after abortion were interviewed. The SPSS program was used for statistical analysis.

Results. 27,6% had first pregnancy; 57,9% women had abortions before, 14,9% - more than 3. Almost the half (43,2%) had terminated a pregnancy by abortion within the previous calendar year; 52,0% - within the nearest 6 months. 47,5% had children; 16,3% women had a child less than one year old. Only 16,9% of contraceptive users reported using modern methods prior to this pregnancy; 39,8% women reported that they were using a contraceptive method when the pregnancy occurred. Nearly three quarters of abortion clients who became pregnant while using contraception were using barrier methods and/or traditional methods of birth control. After abortion procedure 92,3% women planned to use any contraceptive methods: 30,6% -IUD; 20,4%-COC; 10,7%-condoms; 5,3% -spermicides and 23,8% -didn't sure. 20,4% abortion clients planned to use a contraceptive method immediately and rest-after follow-up visit. However prior to discharge from the facility where abortion was performed: only 19,6% young women were asked about whether they wanted children in the future; medical staff discussed ways to avoid another unplanned pregnancy with 13,1% women; and 10,9% women were informed about the availability of post-abortion pregnancy prevention methods at these facilities. Only 1(one) young women had left the facility with a contraceptive method (IUD).

Conclusion: high use of traditional methods, low level of modern methods; absence of post-abortion counseling in most facilities leads to abortion and repeat abortion in youth. For decreasing the number of abortion we should offer post-abortion counseling and contraceptive methods in all cases.