

ABSTRACT

A cross sectional study on the contraceptive usage among the married women of reproductive age was carried out in Aungmyaetharsan Township, Mandalay from September 2010 to November 2010. From a total of 19 wards, four wards were selected by lottery method and from each ward, 49 married women of reproductive age were selected randomly. Total one hundred and ninety six women were interviewed by using pretested and semi-structured questionnaires. It was found that 135 women were currently using one contraceptive type and contraceptive prevalence was 69 (95% CI: 63 - 76). Among them, 55 women (40.74%) used injection, 43 (31.85%) used oral contraceptive pills, 23 (17.04%) used permanent (female sterilization) and only five (3.7%) used the intrauterine device (IUD). There was a lesser usage of injection among the older women ($p < 0.01$) and among women with high education level ($p < 0.01$). The use of injection was also associated with the education level of husbands ($p < 0.01$). There were differences in contraceptive usage according to occupation of their husbands, household members, monthly family income, numbers of alive child and age of the youngest child. Duration of contraceptive usage after the last child was significantly longer in employed women ($p = 0.01$). Women with more than five household members used only one type of contraception for longer duration compared to women with fewer household members ($p = 0.03$). In addition, among 51 (31.0%) women who did not use contraception at the time of this study, 45 (23.0%) women had used in the past and only 16 (8.0%) women were never users. The reasons for using were “long lasting “for injection and “regular menstruation” for oral contraceptive pills. The reasons of never users were that they wanted to have the baby and some women believed that they did not need to use contraception because they could not expect the pregnancy that’s why there was discontinuation of contraceptive usage. Nearly 90 percent thought that contraception should be used. They believed mostly that it benefited to the family. The changing pattern was mostly seen to oral contraceptive pills from injection whereas the usage of only injection was high.