

**FACTORS
INFLUENCING CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD CHOICE
IN PATHEIN TOWNSHIP OF MYANMAR**

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M.A.(POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESEARCH)

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BUPPHA SIRIRASSAMEE, Ph.D.**ABSTRACT**

This study aims to investigate the factors that influence women's decision in selecting contraceptive methods in Pathein Township of Myanmar. Data used are obtained from the survey conducted by Marie Strobe International Organization. Samples of this study are 562 married women of reproductive age who were currently using any contraceptive method. Women's socioeconomic, demographic characteristics, knowledge of contraception and availability and accessibility of contraception were taken as explanatory variables. The dependent variable is contraceptive method choice, which is divided into three categories: short-term, long-term and permanent contraceptive method. Cross tabulation and multinomial logistic regression were carried out to examine the effects of independent variables on method choice.

Results of bivariate and multivariate analysis were consistent. They showed that age, residence, source of information, source of service and travel time have significant effects on women's choice of the contraceptive method. Women with younger age were more likely to use short-term method than permanent method. Rural women were less likely to use long-term and permanent method compared to urban women. Knowledge on type of contraception had positive effect for the choice of permanent method over long-term method. Radio, television, booklet and health staffs / health talks had a positive effect on long-term method over short-term method. Source of service and travel time had a positive effect on long-term and permanent methods over short-term method.

Therefore, it is suggested that younger women who have completed their family size should be encouraged to use the permanent method. The coverage of radio, television and booklet should be increased especially in rural areas. Government hospitals should be encouraged to recommend the long-term and permanent method. Health personnel at government hospitals should get training to provide for the permanent method and insertion of IUD. It is necessary to improve transportation conditions especially in rural areas to access to district hospitals and township hospitals for the long-term method (IUD) and the permanent method namely sterilization.

KEY WORDS: CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD CHOICE / BIRTH SPACING PROGRAM / MYANMAR.

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