

MALE INVOLVEMENT IN CONTRACEPTIVE USE IN TURKEY

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Until recently, fertility and family planning research in developing countries has generally relied on data collected from women. In today's world male involvement in family planning gains attention. Information that has become available from surveys conducted over the past decade suggests that men and women do not necessarily have similar fertility and family planning attitudes. Moreover, the scope of fertility and family planning research has expanded to include issues such as sexually transmitted diseases, on which data from men and women are needed.

Both the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo and the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing recognised the important role of men in improving reproductive health. The statements in both conferences states the need for better ways to reach men with reproductive health services. While interest in male involvement in family planning has increased, little is known about male knowledge of, attitudes toward and practice of contraception. This study focuses on the male method use in Turkey and examines the effect of men's characteristics on their contraceptive use.

This study analyzed the 1998 and 2003 Turkey Demographic and Health Surveys. The surveys are part of the worldwide Demographic and Health Surveys program. Both were conducted by the Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies in Turkey, and provide information on fertility and child mortality levels, family planning awareness, approval and use, and basic indicators of maternal and child health. This study analyzes male method use in the first part. This is done by descriptive analysis of male method users in four groups of variables: individual, cultural, fertility and contextual variables. Determinants of male method use were analyzed using multivariate analysis techniques. Stepwise logistic regression method used in the second part. There will be a trend analysis on male method use between 1998-2003 period by incorporating the latest survey 2003 Turkey Demographic and Health Survey.

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