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Study of Prevalence and Some Correlative Factors with Unwanted Pregnancies

Kasmaei P, Atrkar Roshan Z.

Abstract

Introduction: Unwanted pregnancy is a worldwide problem that affects women, their families and society, and the essential aim of family planning is to prevent women from unwanted pregnancies.

Objective: This cross-sectional study was performed for determining prevalence rate of unwanted pregnancy and some correlative factors in urban areas of Guilan.

Materials and Methods: 500 pregnant women in urban Health Centers for prenatal care were selected by cluster sampling. Data were collected with questionnaire consisting of 29 closed questions.

Results: Analysis of the information showed that 27.4% of pregnancies were unwanted. There was a significant relation between unwanted pregnancy and the variants: age of mother ($p<0.002$), number of children ($p<0.0001$), and mother's educational level ($p<0.014$). Tendency to abortion among pregnant women with unwanted pregnancy was 58.8%.

17% of mothers with previous pregnancy had unwanted pregnancy and 41% of them had abortion. There was a significant relation between going to Health Center during pregnancy (regular or irregular) and unwanted pregnancy ($P<0.015$). In this study, 70.8% of unwanted pregnancies were as a result of contraceptive failures and 29.9% of them were due to non-use of contraceptives.

Conclusion: The results of this study emphasize the necessity for more care on quality aspects of family planning services and specific attention on counseling.

Key words: Abortion/ Contraception/ Pregnancy, Unwanted