NON-ACCEPTANCE OF POST PARTUM STERILIZATION

by

NIRMAL GULATI,* M.D.

During postpartum period after .delivery, abortion or termination of an unwanted pregnancy, women who have completed family are more likely to accept sterilization and in fact that is how All India Hospital Post Partum Programme came into being in April, 1969. While motivating women in postpartum period for tubectomy, most of them could not be persuaded for the procedure and these non-acceptors were interrogated so as to find out the various reasons for non-acceptance. The purpose of the present paper is to analyse the various factors responsible for non-acceptance of postpartum sterilization, so that solution could be found out to enable more women to accept the procedure to make the post partum programme a success.

Material and Methods

From April 1978 to October 1978 we had 1005 (delivery 676, abortion 152, MTP 187) postpartum cases at Medical College Hospital, Rohtak (Haryana) out of which 308 had more than 2 children (30%) and in 45 tubal ligation was done (14.6%) but 263 (85.4%) did not agree for tubectomy. Two hundred of these non-acceptors were studied for demographic details. 70% belonged to urban areas whereas 30% hailed from villages. For comparison, 200 women who had undergone tubectomy and attended out-patient department for various reasons were evaluated.

Observations

1. *Age*: Age ranged from 21 to 43 years, mean value was 29.34 years in non-acceptors, being almost same as for tubal ligation group.

2. *Parity*: Parity ranged from 2 to 8, mean being 2.97 for non-acceptors. In tubectomy group, range was same, but mean value was higher (4.21).

No. of male children: In tubal ligation group, 19.5% accepted the procedure with I male issue, 42.0% with 2 males, 20.5% with 3 male children and 17% with 4 to 7 male children (Table I). In non-acceptors, however, 16% had no male child, 34.5% had 1, 35.0% had 2, 10% had 3 and 4.5% had 4 to 7 children. Mean value was higher (2.41) for tubal

TABLE I
Male Children in Tubectomy

Number	Non-acceptors		Acceptors	
	No. of cases	%age	No. of cases	%age
0	32	16.0	2	1.0
1	69	34.5	39	19.5
2	70	35.0	84	42.0
3	20	10.0	41	20.5
3	9	4.5	34	17.0
Total:	200	100.0	200	100.0
Mean:	—	1.55	—	2.41

*Reader in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical College Hospital, Rohtak (Haryana).

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