

ABSTRACT

This study sought to assess factors affecting current use of Intrauterine Device (IUD) among women of reproductive age in Mityana Central Ward Parish. The study was guided by four research objectives; To assess client-related factors affecting IUDs use among women of reproductive age in Mityana Central Ward Parish; to assess community factors affecting IUDs use among women of reproductive age in Mityana Central Ward Parish; to identify quality of IUD services provided, and how they affect IUDs use among women of reproductive age in Mityana Central Ward Parish; and to determine method-related factors affecting use of IUD among women of reproductive age in Mityana Ward Parish. A cross-sectional design was used to collect data from 364 respondents in all, including women of reproductive age in Mityana hospital, reproductive health Clinic, and the clinics' community catchment area within 1km² in Mityana Central Ward Parish (MCWP). Men and women who are IUD service providers in the clinics were also included as key informants to provide information. Data was collected using both quantitative and qualitative research methods of data collection, analysis and presentation. The study also reviewed existing documents regarding the factors affecting the use of IUDs among women of reproductive age. The study found out that the client-related factors affecting IUDs use among women of reproductive age in Mityana Central Ward Parish include client's knowledge and clients' attitude towards the method. Majority of the respondents (68.1%) knew the correct/right use of the IUDs, saying that are uterine device that reversibly avoids or prolongs pregnancy for a long time; Very few (7.1%) confessed to having used IUD as a family planning method. The study concluded that despite availability of good quality factors to the use of IUD, majority of the women did not use it. Several women were dissatisfied with the method in Mityana Central Ward Parish, having preference for other methods. However, if many quality factors are improved upon, such as increasing accessibility to IUDs, positive provider-attitude towards IUD, having private examination rooms that are well equipped and set to meet the needs of IUD services, availability, accessibility and continuity of IUD services to many health centers. It was found out that many women were willing to adopt the use of IUDs, hence calling on stakeholders to improve of the quality factors. The study recommended that more education, sensitization and counseling be extended to women and their counterparts or husbands to increase client knowledge about use of IUD as a family planning method. This could be done by conducting seminars, workshops, and media programs to increase awareness on the benefits of using IUD, emphasizing factors of high reversibility of the method, convenience of use and accuracy at preventing unwanted pregnancy. This shall help control the high population growth rate.