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A BRIEF ASSESSMENT OF CONDOM AND PILL USERS BASED ON THE
DECEMBER '82 - JUNE '83 BASELINE KAP SURVEY FOR THE
MCH-FP EXTENSION PROJECT

Sam Clark
Mian Bazle Hossain

MCH-FP Extension Project
International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
GPO Box 128, Dhaka-1000
Bangladesh

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INTRODUCTION

This is a brief analysis of data from the December '82 - June '83 Baseline KAP Survey for the MCH-FP Extension Project. It presents results from interviews with 7576 ever married women under age fifty and a subsample of 3223 husbands of these women drawn from the four upazilas, Abhoynagar, Sirajgonj, Gopalpur and Fultala. Most of the data presented here are based on replies from the entire female sample with only part based on the male subsample. The objectives of this analysis are to:

1. Provide a brief demographic profile of condom and pill users making contrasts between them and the sample as a whole.
2. Examine the relative importance of condom use compared to other contraceptive methods.
3. Examine the relative importance of government versus social marketing programs as sources of both condoms and pills.
4. Describe the duration of contraception use for current condom and pill users as well as all current contraceptors.

The results presented are preliminary and should be used for internal USAID purposes only. Complete documentation of the collection of these data is in preparation and will be provided on request as soon as it is available.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

1. Characteristics of users:

- o Among eligible women respondents, condom ever users* are younger, better educated, and of lower parity as compared to ever users* of the pill and to the sample as a whole. The same trends are found for current users of condoms versus pills.

2. Knowledge of methods:

- o With prompting, knowledge of the pill is virtually universal among women respondents while 29.1% had no knowledge of condoms.
- o Even with prompting, among the subsample of husbands 11.3% had no knowledge of condoms compared with 3.5% with no knowledge of the pill. Without prompting less than half of the husbands had knowledge of the pill.

3. Use of methods:

- o Among all methods for all eligible women ever use was highest for the pill (11.0%) and the condom (6.1%).
- o The proportions of eligible women currently using pills (1.9%) and condoms (1.3%) were substantially below sterilization (4.2%) and rhythm (3.7%).
- o For all eligible women overall current method use and specific method use were lower than comparable national data. For all eligible women 16.9% reported current use compared with 19.1% for eligible women in the 1983 CPS.

4. Husband Wife Differences in Reported Method Use:

- o Similar to findings as recently reported by Mitra et al., husbands report higher rates of condom and pill use than wives. The subsample of husbands reported 26.8% current use of all methods versus 18.8% for their wives. Reported ever use of the pill among the husband subsample was 15.5% compared to 13.0% for their wives. Ever use of the condom for husbands was 12.5% versus 8.4% for wives. Reported current use of the condom was 2.6% for husbands versus 1.5% for their wives.

* Ever users of the condom and of the pill are limited in this report to two mutually exclusive groups. Those who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

5. Sources of Information and Contraception:

- o Among all eligible woman almost one third cite government health workers and family planning workers as their first source of information concerning family planning. For current users of pills the proportion is 42%.
- o Over one third of all eligible women respondents did not know of any source from which to receive the pill while almost half (48.3%) did not know of any source of condoms.
- o Of those who knew of sources, just under 80% of women respondents cited family planning workers as potential sources of the pill. Potential main sources for condoms were evenly split between grocery/mudi dokan (45.7%) and family planning workers (44.3%) for women.
- o For the subsample of husbands the overwhelming majority of current condom users cited commercial locations as potential sources for their condoms. Only 18% cited family planning workers compared to 41.6% for their wives. Family planning workers accounted for over half of potential sources of the pill for both women overall and for the husband subsample.

6. Purchase of Contraception:

- o Among women respondents two thirds of condom ever-users and less than one third (28.9%) of pill ever-users had ever purchased their methods.
- o Family planning workers accounted for over two thirds of the sources for pills but less than a third (30.7%) of the sources for condoms among women respondents.
- o The brands of condoms currently used were overwhelmingly the socially marketed "Raja" brand (79.4%) with the remaining 20.6% consisting entirely of government distributed "tahiti" brand condoms.
- o Of the four types of pills reported the leading variety was the government program supplied "Norinyl" which accounted for 57.1% of pill brands currently used.

7. **Duration of Use of Condom and Pill by Women Respondents:**

- o Among current users of condom (n=88) the mean duration of uninterrupted use was 12.3 months (Median = 8.5). Over one quarter of these current users reported a duration of use exceeding one year (30.7%).
- o Among current users of the pill (n=129) the mean duration of uninterrupted use was 19.6 months (Median = 12.0). Of these women 42.6% reported a duration of use exceeding one year.

I. BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF PILL AND CONDOM USERS

A. Subgroups Examined

For this brief analysis two mutually exclusive groups have been defined: ever users of the pill and ever users of the condom. The two groups are defined so that those who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.* This avoids the problem of comparing two groups which have common members. Also by using these two groups, rather than limiting the tables to only current users of the pill and condom, larger subsample sizes are possible. This in turn helps avoid very small numbers in subcategories.

B. Age and Present Marital Status of Women Respondents.

As shown in Tables 1-A, these two subgroups have very different age distributions. Current and ever users of condoms are younger than both pill users and the sample

*The subgroup who claim to have ever used both methods are of interest in and of themselves. However, to simplify this presentation the results for this group are shown but they are not discussed. It is important to keep in mind that by excluding ever users of both methods, 36.4% of all ever users of condoms and 20.2% of all ever users of the pill are excluded. Hence these results are not strictly a profile of all ever users of these methods. Care should be taken not to generalize these findings to all condom ever users and pill ever users.

Table 1: Background variables for Assessment of Condom and Pill users from MCH-FP Extension Project; Mean Age, Years of Education and Parity for Total Sample and for Ever users* and Current users Pill and of Condom. Results from the Dec.'82-June'83 Baseline KAP Survey.

	Total	Ever users* of Pill	Ever users* of Condom	Everusers of both Pill and Condom	Current users of Pill	Current users of Condom
A) Age of Wife						
(n)	(7576)	(662)	(294)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Mean	29.59	31.37	25.84	28.5	28.0	25.5
SD	9.59	7.58	7.67	6.32	6.6	6.3
SE	.11	.29	.44	.49	.58	.67
Appropriate median	28	30	24	28	27	24
B) Education of Wife (mean years)						
(n)	(7576)	(662)	(294)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Mean	1.15	1.84	3.00	4.48	3.74	4.31
SD	2.21	2.68	3.10	3.66	3.25	3.82
SE	.025	.10	.19	.28	.29	.41
Appropriate median	1	1	2	4.0	3.0	4.0
Proportion with zero years education	72.6%	58.9%	39.1%	25.6%	38.0%	27.3%
C) Parity of Wife						
(n)	(7576)	(662)	(294)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Mean	4.11	5.21	3.50	4.28	3.91	3.07
SD	3.09	2.86	2.79	2.55	2.40	2.15
SE	.035	.11	.16	.20	.21	.23
Appropriate median	3	4	2	4.0	4	3
Cumulative percent with three or less children	49.0%	31.4%	60.9%	43.9%	48.8%	63.6%

* Ever users of pill and ever users of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

Table 1 Continued: Occupation of Wife, Present Marital Status and Religion for Total Sample and for Everusers* and Current Users of Pill and of Condom

D. Occupation of Wife

"Do you have an occupation which earns money besides being a housewife?"

(n) Category	Total (7576)	Ever users* of Pill (662)	Ever users* of Condom (294)	Ever users of both Pill and Condom (168)	Current users of Pill (129)	Current users of Condom (88)
Housewife: 01	86.7	88.7	92.5	88.1	86.8	88.6
Cottage Industry: 02	3.8	2.6	2.4	3.0	2.3	2.3
Daily Labour: 03 Mill/Factory worker: 04	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Weaver: 05	0.1	0.0	.3	0.0	0.0	1.1
Domestic Labour: 07	2.2	1.7	1.4	.6	.8	1.1
Services: 10	3.5	2.7	.7	.6	3.1	1.1
Business: 11	0.3	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.0	4.5
Beggar: 13	0.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0
Other	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2.5	3.1	1.7	3.0	5.5	2.3
	100.0	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.1	99.9

E. Present Marital Status

(n)	(7576)	(662)	(292)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Currently Married	90.0	98.0	99.3	98.8	100.0	100.0
Widowed	5.8	.6	0.0	0.0	-	-
Divorced	2.8	.7	0.3	1.2	-	-
Separated	1.3	.6	0.3	0.0	-	-
Total Sample	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0%	100.0

F. Religion

(n)	(7576)	(662)	(294)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Islam	87.0	84.6	89.8	90.5	82.2	86.4
Hindu	12.9	15.1	9.5	9.5	17.8	12.5
Other	0.1	0.3	.7	0.0	0.0	1.1
Total Sample	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Ever users of pill and ever users of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

as a whole. Despite different mean ages there is no substantial difference between the present marital status of pill and condom ever users and none at all between current users, all of whom are married. See table 1-E.

C. Parity of Women Respondents.

Parity differs significantly between pill and condom ever users. The latter, consistent with their younger average age, have a mean of 3.5 children versus 5.2 for ever users of the pill. The same pattern, although less pronounced, is found between current users of pills and of condoms. See Table 1-C.

D. Education and Occupation of Women Respondents.

Condom ever users have significantly higher average years of education compared to the sample overall and to everusers of the pill*. See Table 1-B. It is especially conspicuous that the proportion with no education among condom ever users is almost half that of the sample overall, (39.1% versus 72.6%), and twenty points less than that of pill everusers. Between current users of pills and condoms the same situation is seen although less marked, with only 27.3% of current condom users reporting no education compared to 38.0% of pill users. The distributions of wives occupations are fairly uniform among groups; relatively few women in any group are gainfully employed outside of the home. See Table 1-D.

* It is of interest that the group which has ever used both of these methods has a higher average level of education than either of these two separate groups.

E. Religion Among Women Respondents.

Differences do not appear to be at all substantial in religious beliefs. Condom ever users have a lower proportion of Hindus, but this is too small a difference to be of any programmatic significance.

F. Implications of Background Differences.

The above brief profile of ever and current users of condoms is one of a relatively young, better educated, lower parity group of women who are virtually all married. These findings are quite consistent with the results of a recent focus group session with MCH-FP Extension Project Lady Family Planning Visitors, (See Annex A), and other, anecdotal evidence. These additional sources of qualitative data point to:

- concerns about side effects among better educated couples leading toward condom use
- adoption of condoms by young, newly married couples who are often anxious to conceal their use of contraception
- perception of the condom as an interim method by clinicians.

This brief profile is not consistent with a hypothesis of condom usage being associated with non-marital sexual relations. The ever users and current users of condoms are virtually all currently married as compared to the

entire sample where ten percent are not. However, given the limitations of this survey which is restricted to ever married respondents, these data cannot adequately address this question.

II. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF AND USE OF CONTRACEPTION

Knowledge

Through what is known as a 'recall and prompting' procedure, two types of knowledge measures were derived: prompted and unprompted. As shown in Table 2-A without prompting the pill is the most often recognized method of birth control, followed by tubectomy and the condom at 83.4%, 57.5% and 20.9% respectively. With prompting recognition of the pill and tubectomy is essentially universal, followed by vasectomy and the condom.

In Table 2A-2 results are shown for the subsample of husbands and their wives. Both husbands and wives had lower knowledge of most "traditional" methods than of "modern" methods. Prompting made a substantial contribution to knowledge for almost every method. Unprompted, less than half of husbands had knowledge of the condom and over two thirds had knowledge of the pill. Even with prompting knowledge of the pill is greater than of the condom as is knowledge of tubectomy and vasectomy. While husbands' prompted knowledge of the condom is 17.9 points greater than that of their wives, their levels of knowledge for

Table 2: Knowledge and Ever use of Nine Methods of Family Planning for All Eligible women and for the Husband/Wife Subsample

A-1: Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: All Eligible Women

(n=7576)	Pill %	Condom %	Vasec- toay %	Tubec- toay %	IUD %	Inject. %	Foam %	Rhythm %	Azal (With- drawal) %
Yes (unprompted)	83.4	28.9	11.9	57.5	11.8	8.8	4.1	2.1	0.6
Yes (prompted)	15.0	50.1	71.1	40.8	36.4	53.0	15.6	27.0	13.6
No (prompted)	1.6	29.1	17.0	1.7	51.7	38.2	80.3	70.8	85.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.1

A-2: Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: Husband/Wife Subsample

Wives (n=3223)

Yes (unprompted)	84.4	29.1	12.2	58.0	11.9	8.4	4.2	2.5	0.7
Yes (prompted)	14.5	50.7	71.6	39.3	37.6	53.9	16.0	28.9	15.6
No (prompted)	1.3	29.2	16.1	1.7	50.5	37.7	79.8	68.6	83.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Husbands (n=3223)

Yes (unprompted)	67.6	45.8	22.3	30.7	9.7	7.4	10.0	4.7	1.2
Yes (prompted)	29.0	42.9	72.2	65.9	40.5	54.6	27.3	48.8	20.8
No (prompted)	3.4	11.3	5.5	3.6	49.8	38.0	62.7	46.5	78.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

B-1: Ever use of Family Planning Methods: All Eligible Women

(n=7576) % Ever used	11.0	6.1	0.8	3.9	2.0	0.4	1.2	5.6	1.8
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B-2: Ever use of Family Planning Methods: Husband/Wife Subsample

Wives (n=3223)

% of Ever used	13.0	8.4	0.8	4.1	2.5	0.4	1.4	7.4	2.0
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Husbands (n=3223)

% of Ever used	15.5	12.5	0.8	3.8	1.8	0.3	2.6	15.1	1.8
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other methods are generally quite similar to their wives. Two exceptions are foam and rhythm with the possible addition of vasectomy.

The lower reported knowledge of wives concerning the condom, both prompted and unprompted, may be due to a shyness these women have about discussing male methods. However, when prompted there is not much evidence of shyness when these women are asked about vasectomy; over 90% express recognition.

Ever use of Contraception

Ever use of family planning methods refers to use at any time before the interview date. The overall percentage of this sample who have ever used specific methods of birth control is highest for the pill at 11.0%, and next highest for the condom (6.1%) and rhythm 5.6%. See Table 2-B-1. Tubectomy is a fairly distant fourth at 3.9% followed by the IUD at 2.0%.

Table 2-B-2 shows method-wise ever use rates for the subsample of husbands and their wives. There are considerable differences between the everuse of condoms for wives and for husbands; wives report 8.4% as compared with 12.5% for their husbands. The difference in reported ever use of the pill is fairly small between husbands and wives.

Four of the ten methods considered are reported as being ever used more frequently by husbands than their wives: the pill, condom, foam and rhythm. Reporting of vasectomy is identical while differences in proportions ever using the remaining methods, with the exception of the IUD, are fairly small.

Current Use of Contraception

Of 6822 eligible women, 16.9% were currently using a method of contraception. In order of prevalence, the four most commonly reported methods were sterilization (4.2%), rhythm (3.7%), other (3.0%), the pill (1.9%) and the condom at 1.3% (Table 3). It is clear that of the effective reversible methods, condoms are relatively important. Although the percentages involved are fairly small, condoms account for more current use in this sample than vasectomy, injections and foam combined.

The above estimates of method use are likely to be conservative. Based on the findings of Mitra et al. these rates may reflect underreporting by women. (Mitra et al. 1985). The rate of current condom use, 1.3%, is below that derived from the 1983 Bangladesh eligible women CPS survey (1.5%). This is in turn well below that reported by husbands alone and by the 1983 couple survey (2.7%) as reported by Mitra et al. The rate of pill use is also considerably below the 1983 CPS rates for eligible women: 1.9 versus 3.3.

Table 3: Current Method of Family Planning for All Women Respondents and for the Husband/Wife Subsample

Classification	All Women		Subsample: Wives		Subsample: Husbands							
	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)						
No method currently	83.1	(5669)	(Current users only) 81.2	(2618)	(Current users only) 73.2	(2358)	(Current users only)					
Pill	1.9	(129)	11.2	(129)	2.1	(68)	11.2	(68)	2.9	(93)	10.7	(93)
Condom	1.3	(88)	7.6	(88)	1.5	(48)	7.9	(48)	2.6	(85)	9.8	(85)
Vasectomized	2.3	(56)	4.3	(56)	0.7	(23)	3.3	(25)	0.3	(27)	3.1	(27)
Tubectomized	4.2	(289)	25.1	(289)	4.1	(131)	21.6	(131)	3.7	(120)	13.9	(120)
IUD, Loop, Coil, Copper I	0.8	(52)	4.5	(52)	0.8	(26)	4.5	(26)	0.7	(23)	2.7	(23)
Injection	0.1	(5)	.4	(5)	0.1	(2)	.3	(2)	0.1	(4)	.5	(4)
Foam tablets/jelly	0.3	(19)	1.6	(19)	0.4	(12)	2.0	(12)	0.4	(14)	1.6	(14)
Rhythm	3.7	(250)	21.7	(250)	NA		NA		NA		NA	
Azai (withdrawal)	0.9	(58)	5.0	(58)	NA		NA		NA		NA	
Others	3.0	(207)	17.9	(207)	9.2	(295)	48.8	(295)	15.5	(499)	57.7	(499)
Total	100.1	(6822)	99.8	(1153)	100.1	(3223)	99.9	(605)	99.9	(3223)	100.0	(865)
Not applicable (Divorced, widowed, separated)	10.0	(754)			0	(0)			0	(0)		
Total sample		(7576)				(3223)						(3223)

Table 3 clearly demonstrates large differences in the rates of current use reported by wives and their husbands. Overall 18.8% of wives and 26.8% of their husbands in the subsample claimed to be currently using contraception. One and one half percent of wives versus 2.6% of husbands report current use of the condom. As pointed out by Mitra et al. it is not possible to ascertain from these data whether husbands or their wives are under or over reporting method use. The major sources of discrepancy in the rates of current use between husbands and wives shown in Table 3 stem from "non modern" methods.

It is also of interest that based on Mitra and Kamel's "working rates" of current use by method (see table 7 from Mitra et al. 1985) condoms account for 12.4% of methods used. In in the Extension Project survey they account for only 7.6% among eligible women and 9.8% among the husband subsample. Based on these working rates, pills account for 15.2 percent versus 11.2% for this sample of eligible women and 10.7% for the husband subsample.

III. SOURCES OF CONTRACEPTION AND FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION FOR WOMEN RESPONDENTS AND THE HUSBAND SUBSAMPLE

A. Information Sources

The relative importance of different first sources of information about contraception is shown in Table 4. For the entire sample, while over half cite their neighbors, almost one third (32.3%) cite government health workers or family planning workers. The next most common source, various media, is a distant third at 9.4%. It is clear that there is a substantial impact from Government and/or NGO programs* on the family planning knowledge of this sample. For current users of the pill 41.9% cited government health workers/Family Planning workers as their initial source. For current users of condoms the media stood out as a slightly more important source than FP/Health workers. For ever users, however, government workers were clearly more important.

* In some instances a "family planning worker" may be employed by a NGO.

Table 4: First Source of Information About Family Planning Methods for All Eligible Women and For Ever user* and Current Users of the Pill and Condom

From whom or where did you first hear about family planning methods?

Source	All Eligible Women		Ever users* of Pill		Ever users of both Pill & Condom		Current users of Pill		Current users of Condom			
	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)		
Husband	1.5	(116)	3.3	(22)	6.5	(19)	9.5	(16)	4.7	(6)	6.3	(6)
Friends, Relatives	3.8	(291)	3.0	(20)	6.8	(20)	10.1	(17)	5.4	(7)	6.8	(6)
Neighbors	52.5	(3981)	34.0	(225)	39.5	(116)	24.4	(41)	29.5	(38)	31.3	(29)
FPW/Govt. Health Worker	32.3	(2445)	46.2	(306)	27.9	(82)	31.5	(53)	41.9	(54)	26.1	(23)
Radio/TV/Newspaper/Magazine/Bill Board	9.4	(713)	13.4	(89)	19.0	(56)	23.2	(39)	18.6	(24)	28.4	(25)
Other	0.1	(5)	0.0	(0)	.3	(1)	0.0	(0)	0.0	(0)	0.0	(0)
Never heard of	0.3	(25)	0.0	(0)	0.0	(0)	1.2	(2)	0.0	(0)	0.0	(0)
Total	99.9	(7576)	99.9	(662)	100.0	(294)	99.9	(168)	100.1	(129)	99.9	(88)

* Ever users of pill and ever users of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

B. Sources of Contraception

The entire sample was asked about their knowledge of sources for specific contraceptive methods. Tables 5A - 5C show results for the pill and condom. Of immediate interest is the finding that over one third did not know of any source for the pill (37%) while almost half (48.3%) knew of no source for the condom (Table 5A). It is very impressive that for the pill family planning workers account for just under 80% of the sources indicated. All combined, government sources account for 90.7%. Commercial sources, in particular groceries and mudi dokan, are the most common sources for the condom (45.7%). But it is of interest that family planning workers account for almost as high a proportion of condom sources at 44.3%. All government sources combined account for 51.7% of condom sources. While social marketing programs and private sources are a prominent condom source, government programs and family planning workers are making an equally significant contribution.

For current users of the pill (shown in Table 5-C) family planning workers accounted for over half of known sources (52.3%) of the pill. Government sources overall accounted for 70.3%. For current users of the condom, family planning workers account for 37.2% of known sources of the condom with government sources accounting for less than half (46.6%).

Table 5: Knowledge of Places where the Family Planning Methods Pill and Condom are Available for all Respondents and for Ever users* and Current Users of the Pill and Condom

A. All Women Respondents

Source	Source of Pill		Source of Condom	
		Excluding 'Don't know'		Excluding 'Don't know'
(n)	(7576)	(4774)	(7576)	(3919)
Don't know	37.0	-	48.3	-
Grocery/Mudi Dokan	2.9	4.6	27.7	45.7
Union Health Center	1.0	1.6	0.4	.9
Thana Health Center	0.9	1.4	0.6	1.2
FP Center	1.8	2.8	1.0	1.9
Local Hospital	3.5	5.5	1.7	3.4
Medicine shop	2.8	4.5	1.3	2.6
Family Planning Worker	50.0	79.4	22.9	44.3
Others	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.1	99.9	100.0	100.1

B. Ever users of Pill and of Condoms

Source	Source of Pill		Source of Condom	
	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'
(n)	(662)	(632)	(662)	(481)
Don't know	4.5	-	32.8	-
Grocery/Mudi Dokan	6.6	7.0	27.3	40.7
Union Health Center	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.6
Thana Health Complex	1.1	1.1	.3	.4
Family Planning Center	3.3	3.5	1.7	2.5
Local Hospital	3.9	4.1	2.1	3.1
Medicine Shop	5.6	5.8	1.8	2.7
Family Planning Worker	73.0	76.4	32.8	48.8
Other	.2	.2	.2	.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0

1. Ever used Pills

(n)	(662)	(632)	(662)	(481)
Don't know	4.5	-	32.8	-
Grocery/Mudi Dokan	6.6	7.0	27.3	40.7
Union Health Center	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.6
Thana Health Complex	1.1	1.1	.3	.4
Family Planning Center	3.3	3.5	1.7	2.5
Local Hospital	3.9	4.1	2.1	3.1
Medicine Shop	5.6	5.8	1.8	2.7
Family Planning Worker	73.0	76.4	32.8	48.8
Other	.2	.2	.2	.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0

* Ever users of pill and ever users of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

Table 5 (Continued)

Source	Source of Pill		Source of Condom	
	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'
2. Ever used* Condoms				
(n)	(294)	(229)	(294)	(270)
Don't know	22.1	-	8.2	-
Grocery/Mudi doka	5.8	7.4	42.5	46.3
Union Health Center	2.0	2.6	1.0	1.1
Thana Health Center	.7	.9	.7	.7
Family Planning Center	4.4	5.7	3.1	3.3
Local Hospital	4.1	5.2	1.7	1.8
Medicine shop	5.8	7.4	5.1	5.6
Family Planning Worker	54.8	70.3	37.1	40.4
Other	.3	.4	.7	.7
Total	100.0	99.9	100.1	99.9

* Ever users of pill and ever users of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 120 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

Source	Source of Pill		Source of Condom	
	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'
3. Ever Used Both Pill and Condom				
(n)	(168)	(161)	(168)	(157)
Don't Know	4.2	-	6.5	-
Grocery/Mudi doka	7.7	8.1	33.3	35.7
Union Health Center	1.2	1.2	.6	.6
Thana Health Center	.6	.6	.6	.6
Family Planning Center	8.9	9.3	5.4	5.7
Local Hospital	3.0	3.1	1.2	1.3
Medicine Shop	19.0	19.9	14.3	15.3
Family Planning Worker	54.8	57.1	38.1	40.8
Other	.6	.6	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5 (Continued)

C. Current Users of Pill and of Condoms

Source	Source of Pill		Source of Condom	
	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'	Total	Excluding 'Don't know'
1. Currently Using Pill				
(n)	(129)	(128)	(129)	(101)
Don't know	.8	-	21.7	-
Grocery/Mudi Dokan	16.3	16.4	36.4	46.5
Union Health Center	4.7	4.7	.8	1.0
Thana Health Center	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Family Planning Center	6.2	6.3	4.7	5.9
Local Hospital	4.7	4.7	2.3	3.0
Medicine Shop	12.4	12.5	3.9	5.0
Family Planning Worker	51.9	52.3	30.2	38.6
Others	.8	.8	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2. Currently Using Condom				
(n)	(88)	(74)	(88)	(86)
Don't know	15.9	-	2.3	-
Grocery/Mudi dokan	9.1	10.8	43.2	44.2
Union Health Center	2.3	2.7	0.0	0.0
Thana Health Center	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.2
Family Planning Center	5.7	6.8	6.8	7.0
Local Hospital	3.4	4.1	1.1	1.2
Medicine shop	14.8	17.6	8.0	8.1
Family Planning Worker	47.7	56.8	36.4	37.2
Others	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.2
Total	100.0	100.1	100.0	100.1

Knowledge of sources is also shown (see Table 5-D) for current users of specific methods as reported by the subsample of husbands and their wives. For both husbands and wives who claim to be currently using the pill over half, 54.4% for wives and 54.8% for husbands, cite family planning workers. As shown in Table 5-D the largest difference between these two groups of current pill users is in the proportion of husbands citing medicine shops as a source. This probably reflects a greater mobility available to men than women in village society. Substantial differences are found between the potential sources of condoms reported by husbands as compared to wives. The husbands report commercial sources overwhelmingly: 74.1% for both Grocery/Mudi Dokan and Medicine shop combined. For wives these sources account for 47% of sources.

C. Purchase of Contraception and Where They Were Obtained for Women Respondents.

A useful indirect measure of government/NGO efforts in family planning is the proportion of ever users who have purchased pills or condoms. As shown in Table 6-A, fully two thirds of condom ever users and over 70% of current users report a purchase of condoms. This compares with less than a third (28.9%) of ever users of the pill and 45% of current users who have ever purchased the pill. While non-commercial sources

Table 5-D: Percentage distribution of current users of the Pill and Condom by reported source of supply (Husband/Wife Subsample)

Source of Supply	Current user of:			
	Oral Pill		Condom	
	Wives	Husbands	Wives	Husbands
Grocery/Mudi Dokan	10.3	5.3	41.6	61.2
Union Health Center	4.4	1.1	-	1.2
Thana Health Center	4.4	1.1	2.1	-
FP Center	5.9	9.7	6.3	4.7
Local Hospital	2.2	2.2	-	2.4
Medicine Shop	14.7	25.8	6.3	12.9
FP Worker	54.4	54.8	41.6	17.6
Others	1.5	-	-	-
Don't know	1.5	-	2.1	-
(N)	(68)	(93)	(48)	(85)

Table 6: Whether Pills and/or Condoms Ever Purchased and Where Pills or Condoms Obtained By Ever users* and Current Users of Pills and Condoms

	All Ever users** of pills and or condoms	Ever users* of pill	Ever users* of condoms	Ever users of both Pill & Condom	Current Users of pill	Current Users of condom
A.						
Yes	43.1	28.9	66.3	58.3	45.0	71.6
No	56.9	71.0	33.3	41.7	55.0	28.4
Total	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
(n)	(1122)	(662)	(294)	(168)	(129)	(88)
B. "Where Did you purchase or get it?"						
Source	All Ever users** of pills and or condoms	Ever users* of pill	Ever users* of condoms	Everusers of both Pill & Condom	Current Users of pill	Current Users of condom
(n)	(1122)	(661)	(293)	(168)	(129)	(88)
Grocery/ Mudi dokan	22.4	9.2	49.8	26.2	19.4	45.5
Thana Health Coaplex	0.9	1.1	.7	.6	3.1	2.3
Family Planning Worker	55.0	68.1	30.7	45.8	50.4	26.1
Hospital	2.7	2.9	1.4	4.2	3.9	2.3
Medicine shop	10.2	9.2	7.8	18.5	17.1	14.8
Husband	5.0	3.6	8.5	4.2	2.3	8.0
Relatives, etc.	3.8	5.9	1.0	.6	3.9	1.1
Total	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.1

* Everusers of pill and everusers of condoms are limited to two, mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded.

** Purchase refers to condoms and/or pills. Ever users of pills and of condoms may be referring to either or both methods in their replies to this question.

predominate for the pill it still can be argued that for over one quarter to receive condoms at no cost is also a significant public sector performance.

Consistent with the above result is the very pronounced role of the family planning worker as the source of contraceptives for both pill and condom ever users and current users. The family planning worker accounted for over two thirds for ever users of the pill and over thirty percent for the condom. Again, commercial sources, led by the grocery/mudi doka, predominate for the condom. See table 6-B. For current users of the condom, commercial sources amount to a minimum of 60.3%*.

D. Brand of Contraceptive Used Among Women Respondents.

Current users of the pill and of the condom were asked whether they had ever used a different brand of the same contraceptive method currently being used. As shown in Table 7-A, over forty percent of current pill users and over one third of current condom users reported having used another brand.

*It is a minimum due to the fact that in this question the category 'husband' is included. Clearly the husband could have purchased condoms in some instances.

Table 7-A: Everuse of any other brand of pill or condom in the past among current users of both pill and condoms and for current/ever users* of pill and condom

	Current users	Current/Ever users* of Pill	Current/Ever users* of Condom	Current Pill	Users of: Condom
(n)	(217)	(101)	(63)	(129)	(88)
Yes	39.6	25.7	14.3 (9)	41.1	37.5 (33)
No	60.4	74.3	85.7 (54)	58.9	62.5 (55)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 7-B: Current Brand of Pill or Condom Being Used by Current Users of Pills or Condoms and by Current/Everusers* of Pills and Condoms

	Current users	Current/Ever users* of Pill	Current/Ever users* of Condom	Current Pill	Users of: Condom
(n)	(217)	(99)	(63)	(123)	(88)
Raja	32.7	-	79.4	-	79.5 (70)
Tahiti	10.6	-	20.6	-	20.5 (18)
Maya (SHP)	8.3	16.3	-	14.6	-
Lyndiol/Ovastat	14.3	20.4	-	25.2	-
Horinyl	30.4	57.1	-	53.7	-
Ovacon/Restover/ Other	3.7	6.1	-	6.5	-
Total	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0

* These are current users of the pill who have never used condoms and vice versa. The exclusion of ever users of both methods reduces the available cases from 129 to 101 for pill users and from 88 to 63 for condom users.

The distribution of brands actually used by current pill and condom users is shown in Table 7-B. Only two varieties of condoms are reported. By far the most common is the socially marketed "Raja" condom (79.5%) followed by the government source "Tahiti" at (20.5%). This is clear evidence of the impact of social marketing on condom use. At the same time, government sources are far from negligible.

Four types of pills are reported. By far the most common is the government program supplied Norinyl which accounts for 53.7 percent of the brands used. While the subsample size is quite small, these findings show significant social marketing impact on condom distribution and a correspondingly large impact of government/NGO programs on pill distribution.

IV. Duration of Contraception Use Among Women Respondents*

An assessment of the average duration of method use for both current and ever users of the condom and pill is possible through replies to the following question: "I want you to think of the last method that you have been using. For how many months have you been using this method without interruption?" Table 8 shows the distribution of reported

* This variable was not collected from the husband subsample.

Table 8: Duration of Use of Last Contraceptive Method Used for Total Sample, Ever users* of Pill and Condom and for Current Users of Pill and Condom

Duration of Use Question:

"I want you to think of the last method that you used. For how many months have you been using (name method) without interruption?"

	Total: All Ever Users	Ever used Pill*	Ever used condom*	Current users of:	
				Pill	Condom
(n)	(2058)	(653)	(292)	(129)	(88)
<u>Duration</u>					
Less than 15 days	10.5	10.3	24.3	0.0 (0)	3.4 (3)
1-6 months	37.8	45.6	43.9	34.1 (44)	43.2 (38)
7-12 months	15.4	14.7	12.3	23.3 (30)	22.7 (20)
13-18 months	5.7	3.7	5.1	8.5 (11)	11.4 (10)
19-24 months	7.6	5.8	5.8	9.3 (12)	9.1 (9)
25-37 months	22.9	19.9	8.6	24.8 (32)	10.2 (9)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean	17.5	14.4	8.8	19.6	12.3
SD	22.8	20.0	15.6	21.5	14.9
SE	.5	.8	.9	1.9	1.6
Approximate Median	7 mos.	4 mos.	2 mos.	12 mos.	8.5 mos.

*NB: These respondents are limited to two mutually exclusive groups. The 168 cases who claim to have ever used both methods are excluded important! These respondents are referring to last method used which may or may not be the pill or condom.

months uninterrupted use for all current users of contraception, ever users of the pill and condom who are currently using any method (not limited to pill or condom), and current users of the pill and condom. (For the last two groups it is assumed that their last method is also their current one).

As might be expected the overall result is one of significantly shorter mean duration of continuous use by condom ever users (8.8 months) and current condom users (12.3 months) as compared to everusers of the pill (14.4 months) and current pill users (19.6 months).*

Although the numbers involved are small, the distribution of uninterrupted use by current pill and current condom users are of great interest. Very few current condom users and no pill users report less than one month of use. But 42.6% of current pill users report more than one year's uninterrupted use versus 30.7% of the current condom users. It must be kept in mind that apart

*Note that these means are biased downward slightly by the assumption that respondents who used 15 days or less are assigned a value of zero. The values for each month's duration are treated as mid points of each month interval. Hence .5 is not added to each mean. Apart from the small sample size it should be kept in mind that there is considerable digit preference in the replies given to this question and that the means are biased upward by a few cases claiming up to 87 months continuous use.

from obvious reasons for shorter average duration of condom use, such as the fact that even women who discontinue pill in the first month usually have used it for two weeks, there is also a slight age bias between the two groups. By virtue of being a younger group condom users have had less time to accumulate months duration of uninterrupted use.

In conclusion, duration of condom use is considerably shorter than that of pill use as reported by these small subgroups. However the duration of condom use found here is certainly not inconsequential. Average duration of use is about one year and over thirty percent claim to have used the method for more than one year. Whether the condom is viewed as a desirable initial method for young married couples or as an interim method for those experiencing problems with other methods, short term use is entirely appropriate.

Conclusion

In considering the following summary of findings it should be kept in mind that the categories of everuse of the pill and ever-use of the condom exclude a substantial number of respondents who have ever used both methods (20% of pill and 36% of condom everusers). While this approach has the advantage of a strengthened contrast between the two mutually exclusive groups, it has the disadvantage of excluding an important subgroup. Care should be taken not to generalize these results to all ever users of the condom or the pill.

1. Brief Demographic Profile of Condom Users

Compared to the entire sample and to ever and current users of the pill, ever and current users of the condom are younger, with more education and of lower parity. These findings are consistent with qualitative evidence indicating that: 1) condom use is in part a response to concerns over side effects from other contraceptives among the better educated and 2) condom use is relatively more common among newly married couples who are often anxious to conceal their use of contraception.

2. Relative Importance of Condom Use

While ever use of condoms is quite high relative to other methods, condoms are less than 10% of current methods used. Nonetheless current condom use exceeds the other two male methods of vasectomy and withdrawal. While current use of

condoms is low, condom use is an important option for some portions of eligible couples at different stages in their marital life.

3. Relative Importance of Government Versus Social Marketing Sources of Condoms

Social Marketing sources for the condom are clearly the most important source for this sample. While government and/or NGO sources are the major sources of information and supply for the pill, condoms are obtained commercially by over 60% of the entire sample of women current users and by a larger proportion of the husband subsample. The brands of condoms reported in use suggest that social marketing and government/NGO programs account for all condoms used.

4. Duration of Use for Current Condom Users

Although based on fairly small numbers these data show that duration of condom use on average is much less than that of the pill at 12.3 months (n=88) versus 19.6 months (n=129) for current users. While significantly shorter than pill users, duration of condom use is fairly substantial; over thirty percent claim to have used the method for more than a year and very few report less than one month use.

REFERENCES

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Ruth Simmons, Ph.D.

ANNEX-A

CONDOM FIELDNOTE: BASED ON GROUP INTERVIEW WITH THE FOUR LADY FAMILY PLANNING VISITORS, AND MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE ICDDR,B'S MCH-FP EXTENSION PROJECT

1. 4 Lady Family Planning Visitors (LFPVs) have been working in the MCH-FP Extension Project for at least 18 months. They are posted in Abhoynagar and Sirajgonj upazilas to provide counterpart support service to Family Welfare Visitors (FWVs). They and medical officers of the project were interviewed about the condom gap in an informal group discussion conducted by senior project staff. The purpose of this interview was to gather information about patterns of condom use in project areas. LFPVs have regular contact not only with FWVs but also with FWAs, and other upazila health and family planning staff.
2. Extent of condom preference and characteristics of condom users:

LFPVs report that condoms are not much liked by clients; female clients tend to argue that their husbands are not interested in condoms. Males who come to the FWC requesting condoms are highly motivated to use condoms, but when women receive condoms this does not generally represent a high level of motivation. This is so because FWAs use condoms as a last resort: they begin by persuading clients to accept other methods, and when clients do not accept those, then they ask them to accept condoms. Their education about

condoms and their effectiveness is poor, very few women are asking FWAs/FWVs for condoms. Generally condom users are found to be more educated who don't want to use other methods because of their awareness of possible side-effects, newly weds, those who have complications with other methods, and husbands who work elsewhere and visit wives irregularly; and those who use condoms as an interim measure prior to pill or injectables. LFPVs feel that only 5% of all condom users are highly motivated.

3. Non-use of distributed condoms:

LFPVs acknowledge that non-use, or non-continuous use of distributed condoms is a problem. In part this is due to inadequate explanation provided by FWAs but as discussed under 2, also to inadequate motivation on the part of the client to use this method.

4. Wives' reluctance to report condom use:

Condoms are frequently used by newly-weds. Newly married women are typically shy about reporting use of condoms. Even older women can be shy. For example, a 38 year old woman did not request condoms in the presence of her son-in-law and her daughter-in-law. She requested condoms when she could speak to the worker alone. Women will talk to FWVs and FWAs about condoms but would not necessarily talk freely to an unfamiliar interviewer. Use of condoms is considered a very personal matter; women tend to hide condoms.

5. Irregular use not reported as condom use:

In cases of short duration of use which occurs where condoms are used as interim measures, condom use may go unreported. This applies for example to condom use prior to initiation of pill cycle or injectables.

6. Condoms used for non-contraceptive purposes:

LFPVs report that they used to see condoms used as toys, but report that they see less of this practice these days because they have asked the FWA to tell women not to give condoms to children.

7. Diversion of condoms from MOHPC distribution system:

LFPVs report they used to observe how FWAs (male health workers) indented condoms for FWV use but then sold them for Tk.10 to the local shops. They report that this practice has decreased now-a-days possibly because of the project's presence. One LFPV reports this practice for an area of previous employment as well.

8. Amount of condoms distributed:

FWAs distribute 24 condoms at a time; one LFPV reports that clients sometimes use 2 condoms at a time to be protected against breakage.