

Pattern and Risk Factors of Menstrual Regulation Service Use among Ever-married Women in Bangladesh: Evidence from a Nationally Representative Cross-sectional Study

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Abstract : Background: Around 47% of the total pregnancies are unintended in Bangladesh, which lead to several adverse consequences, including maternal and child mortality. Use of menstrual regulation (MR) can help women to reduce unintended pregnancy related adverse consequences. We explored the prevalence and determinants of MR services among ever-married women in Bangladesh. Methods: Total of 14,346 ever-married women data were analysed from the 2017 Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey. Our study variable was use or non-use of MR services. Individual, household, and community level factors were the explanatory factors. Multilevel mixed-effect Poisson regression model was used to determine the factors associated with MR services in Bangladesh. Results: Nearly 7% of the total women in Bangladesh use MR services. Use of MR services was found higher among women who were aged 20-30 ages (IRR 1.60, 95% CI: 1.17-2.17), who were overweight (IRR 1.43, 95% CI: 1.13-1.81), had at least 1 child (IRR 2.97, 95% CI: 2.34- 3.77) or > 2 children (IRR 3.22, 95% CI: 2.45-4.20), and the birth preceding birth interval was (2 - 4) years (IRR 1.56, 95% CI: 1.13-2.15). Around 1.39 times (95% CI: 1.11-1.73) higher likelihood of MR was found among women whose husbands were engage with business. At the community level, MR service was found lower among the women who resided in the community with higher illiteracy (IRR 0.67, 95% CI: 0.42-0.96) and the Mymensingh division (IRR 0.39, 95% CI: 0.31-0.91). Conclusion: Use of MR service is comparatively low, which indicate a significant proportion of unintended pregnancy continued toward life-birth. This could be responsible for higher adverse maternal and child health outcomes in Bangladesh. Initiatives should be taken to ensure MR services is available when women need this service.

Keywords : menstrual regulation, pattern, risk, maternal health, Bangladesh

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