

## Emergency Contraceptive Utilization Among Female College Student in Gondar Town, Central Gondar, Ethiopia 2023

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**Abstract :** Introduction: Contraceptive is a method of preventing unwanted pregnancy. Emergency contraceptives (EC) are one of the means of preventing unwanted pregnancy after unprotected sexual intercourse or failure of another contraceptive, such as condom breakage. Studies show that there was a gap in utilization and knowledge in the studies conducted in different countries. Different studies in Ethiopia indicate that awareness of EC is less than 50%, and utilization is less than 10%. Objective: This study assesses emergency contraceptive utilization among female college students of Gondar town, Northwest Ethiopia, 2023. Method: Institutional-based Cross-sectional study was designed. From April 28- May 13, 2023, the study population was all college students attending college in Gondar town, with a total of 245 sample sizes. Data was entered into Epi\_info version 7 and exported to SPSS version 20.0 for analysis. Result: Of the total respondents, 102 (41.6%) respondents who have had sex ever used EC with the intention of preventing unwanted pregnancy. Of those, 20 (8.2%) were post-pill, and 46(18.8%) were injections. The major source was pharmacies, with 51(20.8%) followed by Hospital 40(16.3%) and 23 (9.4%) of them took ECs only once time, 29 (11.8%) took two times, and 46(18.8%) started the regular method after ECs. Most of the respondents, 43 (17.6%), have discussions about ECs with friends. Conclusions and Recommendation: College students' awareness of emergency contraceptives was very low. Emergency contraceptive education should be provided for all college students and other university students. Correct timing is the single most important determinant of EC effectiveness.

**Keywords :** practice, emergency contraceptive, unintended, Ethiopia, unwanted

**Conference Title :** ICCV 2024 : International Conference on Computer Vision

**Conference Location :** Vancouver, Canada

**Conference Dates :** September 26-27, 2024