

## Male Involvement in Family Planning Use and Associated Factors Among Married Men in the Pastoralist Community of Yabelo District, Borena Zone, Oromia, Ethiopia, 2024

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**Abstract :** Background: Males participate in family planning by utilizing the method, having discussions, approving decisions, and supporting their partners and other family members. One of the reasons Ethiopia has a low rate of FP use is the poor participation of men in family planning. So, the finding of the study could help married men and other stakeholders to alleviate the problems related to low involvement. Objective: To assess males' involvement in family planning use and associated factors among married men in the pastoralist community of Yabelo district, Borena, Oromia, Ethiopia, 2024. Methods: Cross sectional study design supplemented by qualitative and multistage sampling method for quantitative one and purposive sampling method for qualitative was done. The interviewer administered questionnaires from 531 samples for quantitative and from 14 key informants for qualitative were taken. Quantitative data were entered using Epi Info version 7.2.2.6 and analyzed using SPSS version 24. Bivariate associations between dependent and independent variables were examined. Multi variable logistic regression analysis was done to identify factors significantly associated with male involvement. Qualitative data was analyzed using open code 4.03. The study was conducted from January 1-February 29, 2024. Results: A total of 531 respondents participated. The mean age of the study participant was  $28 \pm 2.1$  (SD). The prevalence of male involvement in FP use among married males in Yabelo district was 9.6 (AOR= 9.6, 95% CI: 7.14-12.15). Age above 40 years (AOR=0.18, 95% CI: 0.05-0.6 p=0.009), educational status unable read and write (AOR=9.4, 95% CI:3.5-25.4 p=0.001), read and write only (AOR=7.1, 95% CI:2.4-21.4 p=0.001), knowledge on side effects of FP (AOR=2.35, 95% CI: 1.09-5.06 p=0.029) were factors associated with male involvement in FP use. A total of 14 key informants participated in the interview of qualitative part and culturally perceived FP issues, lack of awareness and desire of more children were among the reasons for low involvement in FP use. Conclusion: The finding of the study showed that the magnitude of male involvement in family planning use was low. Age (>40), educational status (read and write only) and fear of side effects were factors associated with low husband involvement in FP use. Therefore, family planning programs need to target men at all levels of the service.

**Keywords :** family planning, male involvement, married men, Yabelo district

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