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Descriptive study on current contraceptive practices at the MOH division of Ragama MD (Obstetrics and Gynecology) - 2010 **D 2272**

A random sample of 206 Clients seeking contraception (first time users) during a 6 month period from January 2005 were included in this study. The eligible families under care was 12088 with a total of 604 clients obtaining contraceptive services during this 6 month period. Data was collected by the chief investigator in the presence of a member of the MOH clinic (PHM). The couple were administered a structured questionnaire after an information leaflet had been provided and informed consent obtained. Data was collected from these clients who had selected a particular contraception for the first time 3 years ago. From a range of contraceptive methods available, DMPA was the most popular. Statistical tests showed that the randomly selected study sample of 206 clients closely resembles the clinic data during the period of January to June 2005. From this study sample 49.5 percent clients noted side effects believed to be due to contraceptives. Side effects were the commonest cause for discontinuation while myths about modern contraception, contraceptive failure and plans for further pregnancy led to discontinuation. From those clients who stopped their first contraception few resorted to second modern method of contraception. Total continuation rate was 56.3 percent at the end of the study period. Partner approval led to greater continuation rates.