Abstract

The purpose of the present project is to identify attitudes towards contraceptive use, and the risk perception of a future pregnancy and its influence on being in favor of the use of contraceptives. Seven hundred and twenty interviews were collected from women waiting for their prenatal visit at a tertiary level institution in Mexico City. Ninety percent of the interviewed presented a positive attitude towards postpartum contraceptive use. Multiple logistic regression analysis showed that maternal age 20-24 years [odds ratio (OR) 3.9, 95% confidence interval (CI) 1.4-10.9, p=.010] and 25-29 years (OR 3.4, 95% CI 1.3-9.0, p=.014); educational level of junior high (OR 2.6, 95% CI 1.2-5.6, p=.018); and high school or more (OR 2.1, 95% CI 1.0-4.4, p=.044); marital status with partner (OR 7.0 95% CI 3.2-15.5, p< .001); and desire for no more children (OR 3.4, 95% CI 1.6-6.9, p=.001), increased the possibility of having a positive attitude towards contraceptive use, while abortion at last pregnancy avoided it (OR 0.2, 95% CI 0.5E-01-0.5, p=.003). Fifty six percent perceived the risk of a future pregnancy. Nonetheless, it did not affect on having a favorable opinion towards family planning. Primary prevention of high risk pregnancies is one of the biggest challenges in perinatal health, future efforts must include identification and modification of risk perception and attitudes towards reproductive risk.

Keywords

contraception, attitude, risk perception, health education, Mexico.