Subject: Informed choice and contraceptive discontinuation
Posted by shafaq.mahmood93 on Fri, 25 Jun 2021 11:14:48 GMT
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Hi. We are working on the following research question

What is the effect of Method Information Index (MII), as a measure of quality contraceptive counseling, on method discontinuation.

Currently I am working with DHS data set of Pakistan (2017-18). According to the definition of "informed choice" given in PDHS report it includes sample of only current users of modern methods age 15-49 who started the last episode of use within the 5 years preceding the survey.

Based on our understanding of the above definition, the MII variables (v3a02 - v3a06) should only be available for those females who are current modern contraceptive users. And if that is the case then probably we would not be able to look at contraceptive discontinuation among these females because all are current users. Although we were able to find one working paper of DHS (Myanmar 2015-16) that looked at informed choice as one of the predictor variables for 12-month contraceptive discontinuation rate and we are not sure how did they do this because apparently MII is only measured in current users, so there shouldn't be any discontinuation then. Please correct me if I am wrong. Is there any way we can still answer our research question?

Link to Myanmar study: https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/WP145/WP145.pdf

Second problem that we identified is that there is a slight discrepancy in the PDHS 2017-18 data set. As per the definition, MII variables should be recorded for only those females who are currently using a modern method. But when we look at v313 (current use by method type) and MII variables (v3a02-v3a06) in PDHS data set then some females who are currently using traditional methods have also been asked some of the MII questions (particularly v3a06). What is the reason for that?

In addition to that, after creating our event file and discontinuation indicator variable (according to the calendar tutorial) we again looked at v313, MII variables and discontinuation indicator, after merging it with the IR data set. And we noticed that for several cases, the discontinuation variable had a value of "1" (meaning that discontinuation was positive) against those females who are a part of informed choice subsample. Although, according to our understanding, all these females are current users and logically their discontinuation indicator variable should always have a value of "0" (meaning no discontinuation). Can you please clarify this.

I hope my queries are clear to you. Waiting anxiously for your response.