

'Female sterilization most common contraception form'

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Jaipur: Majority of married women in Rajasthan are using modern contraceptive methods and female sterilization is the most common form of contraception in the state, a recent study reveals. The study named as the PMA-2020 project was done by the IIHMR University with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA.

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"Female sterilization is the most common form of

contraception in Rajasthan as 65 percent of 'married modern method users' are sterilized. Around 58.6 percent of those women who are choosing a contraceptive are choosing their method jointly with their partners," Dr Anoop Khanna, professor at IIHMR university said. "While female sterilization

remains the most common method, some women are opting to use short-acting forms of contraception, such as birth control pills and condoms," he added.

The study says that, of married women who use modern contraception, 9.9 per cent are using birth control pills and 19.3 per cent opt for male condoms. Long-acting methods that are reversible are not widely used. Though many public service delivery points have supplies for IUCD insertion and removal but its acceptance is still low as only about three per cent of married women who are using a modern

method have an IUCD. Interestingly, injectable use has slightly increased. "Despite these gains, disparities remain between the wealthiest and poorest women in Rajasthan. Additionally, access to long-acting methods continues to be a challenge, with few public and private health facilities offering sterilization and IUCDs," said Dr. Khanna.

The study reveals that, as far as equity and gender parity in matters of contraception choice is concerned, it has been found that a large proportion of women choose the method of contraception with the partner.