

Reproductive Health

WHAT IS REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH?



World Health Organisation (WHO) defines:

Reproductive health is a total well-being in all aspects of reproduction i.e., physical, emotional, behavioural & social.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES





- India initiated reproductive health programmes (family planning) in 1951.
- Wider reproduction-related areas are in operation under the Reproductive & Child Health Care (RCH) programmes.



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES

Such programmes deal the following:

- ✓ Give awareness about reproduction related aspects for creating a reproductively healthy society.
- ✓ Educate people about birth control, care of pregnant mothers, post-natal care of mother & child, importance of breast feeding, equal opportunities for male & female child etc.
- ✓ Awareness of problems due to population explosion, social evils like sex-abuse and sex-related crimes, etc.



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES





Aims & needs of sex education in schools

- To provide right information about sexrelated aspects. It helps to avoid sexrelated myths and misconceptions.
- ➤ To give proper information about reproductive organs, adolescence and related changes, safe and hygienic sexual practices, sexually transmitted diseases (STD), AIDS etc.

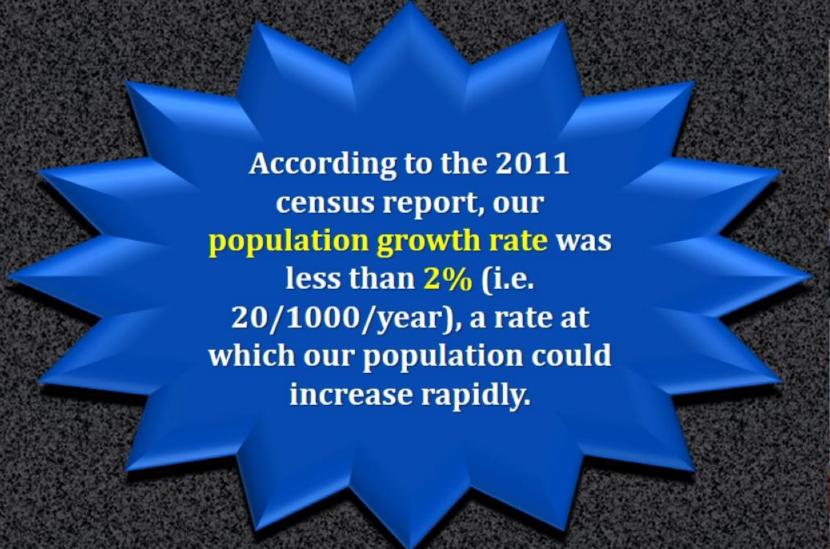
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In India, population was nearly 350 million at the time of independence. It reached 1 billion by 2000 and crossed 1.2 billion in May 2011. It means every sixth person in the world is an Indian.







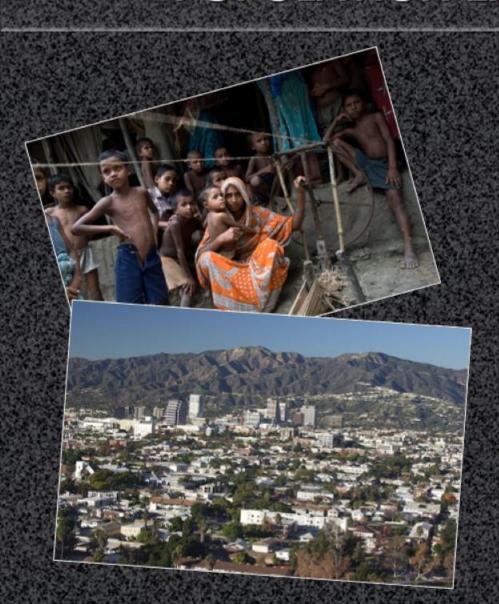






Reasons for population explosion

- Increased health facilities and better living conditions.
- A rapid decline in death rate, maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR).
- Increase in number of people in reproducible age.



Impacts of population explosion

 Scarcity of basic requirements (food, shelter and clothing).



Control measures

- Motivate smaller families by using contraceptive methods.
- Aware peoples about a slogan Hum Do Hamare Do (we two, our two). Many couples have adopted a 'one child norm'.
- Statutory rising of marriageable age of females (18 years) and males (21 years).

CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS



Properties of an ideal contraceptives

- User-friendly
- Easily available
- Effective
- Reversible
- No or least side-effects
- Should not interfere with sexual drive, desire & sexual act.

CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS



Natural/Traditional methods



Barriers



Intra Uterine Devices (IUDs)



Oral contraceptives

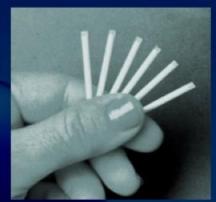


Injectables

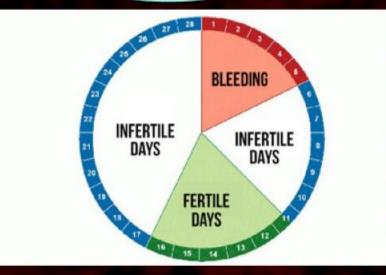


Surgical methods (sterilization)













1. Natural/Traditional methods

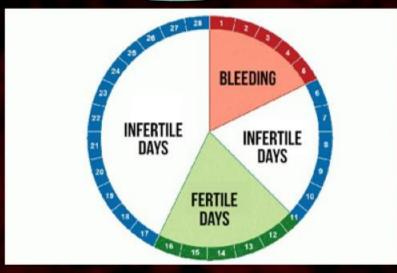
Avoiding chances of ovum and sperms meeting.

Types of Natural/Traditional Methods

Periodic abstinence

Coitus interruptus

Lactational amenorrhea







1. Natural/Traditional methods

- > Periodic abstinence: Avoid coitus from day 10 to 17 of the menstrual cycle (fertile period).
- Coitus interruptus (Withdrawal): Withdraw penis from the vagina just before ejaculation to avoid insemination.
- Lactational amenorrhea: It is the absence of menstrual cycle & ovulation due to intense lactation after parturition. Fully breastfeeding increases lactation. This method helps to prevent conception. This is effective up to 6 months following parturition.

It has no side effect. But chances of failure are high.



Condom for male



Condom for female

2. Barriers

They prevent physical meeting of sperm & ovum. E.g. Condoms, Diaphragms, cervical caps & vaults.

Condoms

- Made of rubber/latex sheath.
- Condoms for male: Cover the penis.
- Condoms for female: Cover the vagina & cervix.
- Condoms are used just before coitus. They prevent the entry of semen into female reproductive tract.
- 'Nirodh': Popular condoms for males.



2. Barriers

They prevent physical meeting of sperm & ovum. E.g. Condoms, Diaphragms, cervical caps & vaults.

Condoms

Why Condoms are very popular?

- It protects the user from STDs and AIDS.
- It is disposable.
- It can be self-inserted and thereby give privacy to user.



2. Barriers

Diaphragms, cervical caps & vaults

- Made of rubber and are inserted into the female reproductive tract to cover the cervix during coitus.
- They block the entry of sperms through the cervix.
- They are reusable.
- Spermicidal creams, jellies & foams are used along with these barriers to increase their contraceptive efficiency.



3. Intra Uterine Devices (IUDs)

- These are inserted by doctors or nurses in the uterus through vagina.
- They increase phagocytosis of sperms.
- IUDs are ideal method to delay pregnancy or space children.

Non-medicated IUDs

Copper releasing Hormone releasing IUDs



3. Intra Uterine Devices (IUDs)

Types of IUDs

Non-medicated IUDs:

They retard sperm motility.

Also have spermicidal effect. E.g. Lippes loop.





3. Intra Uterine Devices (IUDs)

Types of IUDs

 Copper releasing IUDs: Cu ions suppress motility and fertilising capacity of sperms. E.g. CuT, Cu7, Multiload 375.



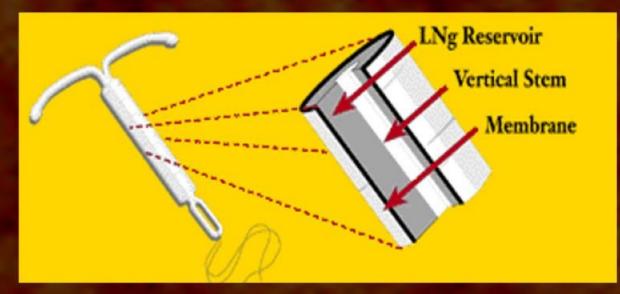


3. Intra Uterine Devices (IUDs)

Types of IUDs

Hormone releasing IUDs:

They make the uterus unsuitable for implantation and the cervix hostile to the sperms. E.g. Progestasert, LNG-20.





4. Oral contraceptives

- Oral administration of progestogens or progestogen-estrogen combinations in the form of tablets (pills).
- Pills are taken daily for 21 days starting within the first five days of menstrual cycle. After a gap of 7 days (menstruation period), it should be repeated in the same pattern till the female desires to prevent conception.
- They inhibit ovulation & implantation and thicken cervical mucus to prevent entry of sperms.
- Pills are very effective with lesser side effects.

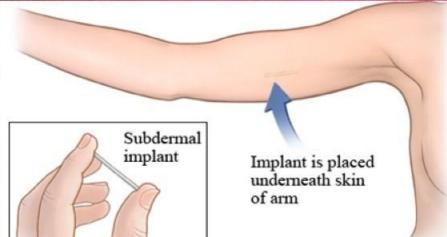


4. Oral contraceptives

Saheli

- New oral contraceptive for the females.
- It is developed by Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) in Lucknow.
- It contains a non-steroidal preparation.
- It is a 'once a week' pill with very few side effects and high contraceptive value.



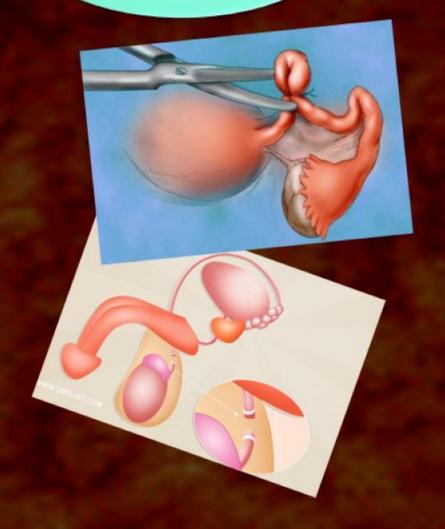


5. Injectables

- Progestogens or Progestogens-oestrogen combination are used by females as injections or implants under skin.
- Their mode of action is like that of pills and their effective periods are much longer.

Progestogens or progestogen-oestrogen combinations & IUDs are used as emergency contraceptives within 72 hours of coitus.

It avoids pregnancy due to rape or casual intercourse.



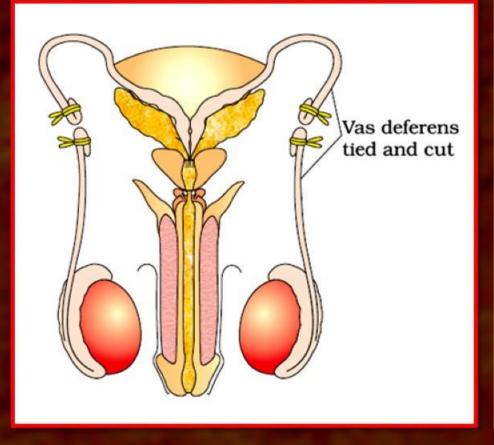
6. Surgical methods (Sterilization)

- It helps to block gamete transport and thereby prevents conception.
- It is very effective but reversibility is poor.

Types of surgical methods

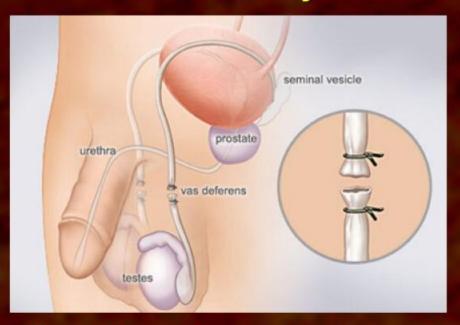
Vasectomy

Tubectomy

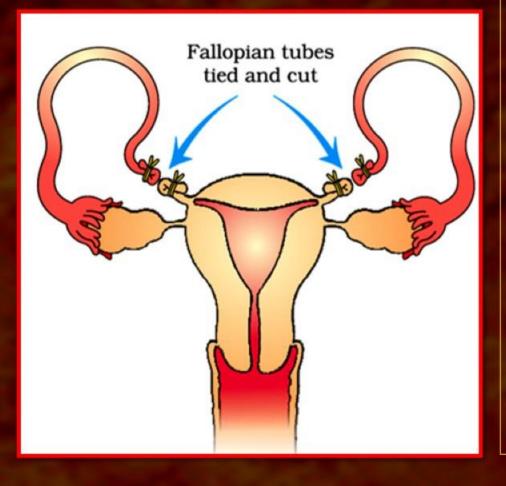


6. Surgical methods (Sterilization)

Vasectomy

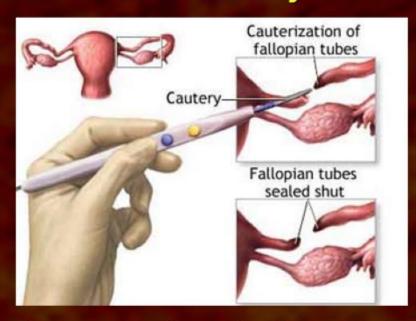


- Sterilization procedure in males.
- In this, a small part of the vas deferens is removed or tied up through a small incision on the scrotum.



6. Surgical methods (Sterilization)

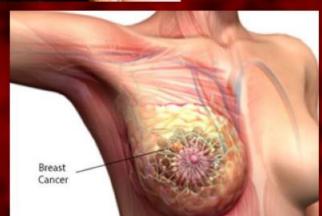
Tubectomy



- Sterilization procedure in females.
- In this, a small part of the fallopian tube is removed or tied up through a small incision in the abdomen or through vagina.







Side-effects of anti-natural Contraceptive methods

Nausea

Abdominal pain

Breakthrough bleeding

Irregular menstrual bleeding

Breast cancer