

## **Highlights: mHealth survey data on married adults**

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### **Highlights:**

1. About 75% study subjects had either middle, secondary or higher secondary education.
2. Only 90% men and 75-85% women could read and write. (This will be good to check among those who had ever been to school)
3. More than 90% study subjects were Hindu.
4. In both study areas, about 65% women belonged to schedule tribe while only 23% men from Shahpur belonged to schedule tribe and 77% men from Igatpuri were in this caste category. 20-25% study subjects belonged to other backward class. 45% men from Shahpur belonged to schedule caste.
5. 80-90% study subjects had at least one mobile phone.
6. 80% men as against 30% women always had mobile phone with them. 30% women had phone available at night or in the evening.
7. Men used mobile phones either to call friends or relatives while women used it for calling relatives.
8. Majority of study subjects were not aware of any call centre in their regions.
9. 24% women from Shahpur were aware of a call centre for family planning and they were able to recall the name of the NGO running the call centre. Men from this region and study subjects of Igatpuri were not aware of such facility.
10. 75-95% of the study subjects were in favour of an idea of a call centre for health issues.
11. About 80% women and 75% men thought that people would contact the call centre for family planning.
12. According to the most of the study subjects, the ideal number of children were two, and they preferred one boy and one girl child.
13. About 60% subjects had either one or two children living. The proportion of subjects having a boy child was about 40-50% and having a girl child was 30-40%.
14. Surprisingly, 60% men from Shahpur reported that their wives had experienced miscarriages but no such data were provided by women.
15. In both areas, 60% men took decision about the treatment during the illness while only 20% women made this decision. The same was true in case of antenatal check-up.
16. The decision about using contraception was made by self or both (in case of women respondents) in 45% cases. About 50% did not use any method.
17. About 70% women had ever heard about the methods to delay or avoid pregnancy but only 50% men had heard of such methods. TV or ANM, nurse or doctor were the main sources.
18. About 50% men said that they can not say anything about the first method of family planning while only 30% women answered similarly. The two methods mentioned by men were female sterilization (about 19% from Shahpur and 20% from Igatpuri) and condom (about 17% from Shahpur and 15% from Igatpuri). The two methods mentioned by women were female sterilization (45% from Shahpur and 20% from Igatpuri) and oral pills (10% from Shahpur and 20% from Igatpuri).
19. When other methods of family planning were asked, methods such as safe period, lactation, withdrawal, abstinence were not mentioned or mentioned by a very small proportion of study subjects. About 33% and 14% women from Shahpur and Igatpuri, respectively mentioned IUD or copper T.
20. 29% men and 57% women from Shahpur, and 54% men and 69% women from Igatpuri, said they were currently using contraceptive methods.
21. All the respondents who said that they are currently using contraceptive methods, reported using female sterilization (except in women respondents of Igatpuri, 62% said female sterilization, 20% said breastfeeding, 12% said oral pills or standard days).

22. The reason for choosing the current method was easy to use (men from Shahpur), easy to use and desire not to have any more children (women from Shahpur and Igatpuri), and desire not to have any more children (men from Igatpuri).
23. Most of them received the method from the health centre and it was also advised by the health centre. The use of method was explained to the respondents.
24. Check the data on the duration of use of the current FP method.
25. Data on the contraceptive methods used since married are not reported correctly since the first method used is either female sterilization or not applicable. In Igatpuri, women answered female sterilization or lactation.
26. About 60% to 80% of those who were not currently using the contraception wanted to have one more child. 21% men from Shahpur did not want any more children and 32% women from Shahpur and 26% men from Igatpuri said they were undecided about having another child.
27. The proportions of study subjects who did not agree to the statement
  - a) "Contraception is women's business and a man should not have to worry about it", were (55%, 88%) and (60%, 55%) (men, women) from Shahpur and Igatpuri, respectively. 29% men and 13% women from Igatpuri responded that they do not know while this proportion was very small for Shahpur.
  - b) "Those who use contraception may become promiscuous", were (72%, 63%) and (57%, 46%) (men, women) from Shahpur and Igatpuri, respectively. (13%, 35%) and (36%, 31%) (men, women) from Shahpur and Igatpuri, respectively said "they do not know".
28. The proportions (in %) of those who said (true, false, do not know) for the following statements were, respectively men and women from Shahpur and Igatpuri,
  - a) "A woman can get pregnant on the very first time that she has sexual intercourse", (26, 24, 26), (39, 46, 15), and (16, 46, 38), (40, 38, 22).
  - b) "Masturbation causes weakness in men", (61, 25, 14), (3, 51, 46), and (44, 15, 41), (11, 3, 86).
  - c) "A woman is most likely to get pregnant if she has sexual intercourse from 9 to 19th after her periods, counting Day 1 as first day of periods", (28, 3, 69), (19, 19, 62), and (30, 14, 56), (49, 11, 40).
29. Awareness about the symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases. The proportions (in %) of those who said that they were aware of the following symptoms were, respectively (men, women) from Shahpur and Igatpuri,
  - a) Foul smelling discharge from sexual organs, (7, 13), and (19, 32).
  - b) Pain during urinating, (9, 18), and (29, 47).
  - c) Boils in legs or arms, (2, 9), and (11, 13).
  - d) Ulcers/sores in genital areas, (3, 15), and (12, 24).
  - e) Red, bloody eyes, (2, 17), and (5, 9).
  - f) For women, acute lower abdominal pain, (5, 34), and (29, 62).
  - g) For women, thick, curd-like discharge, Itching, soreness of the vulva and vaginal area or painful intercourse, (3, 30), and (21, 53).
30. Majority of the study subjects said that the treatment for sexually transmitted diseases could be obtained from a health centre or private clinic.
31. Willingness to contact a call centre about sexual problems was shown by 43% men, 100% women from Shahpur, and 84% men and 75% women from Igatpuri.