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O 75 – Determinants of immediate post partum intrauterine contraceptive device uptake among mothers delivering in meru hospital

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It is through family planning that unplanned pregnancies can be prevented. Post partum method of contraception is highly recommended because it is long acting, convenient, safe and highly effective with minimal side effects. According to the Meru Hospital records for the year 2017, the immediate PPIUCD uptake was very low at 3.4 %. The purpose of this study was to assess the factors that determine uptake of PPIUCD at Meru Hospital. A descriptive research design was used and Simple random sampling was used to get the sample for the barriers and a census done for the facilitators. Permission was sought from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation through Chuka University Ethics and Research Committee. The study revealed that; The main client related determinant to low PPIUCD uptake was lack of knowledge (67.2 %) on the method as a result of the providers' reluctance to share information. The provider determinant to low PPIUCD uptake was reluctance to provide timely counseling and insertion. 68.9 % of the clients who did not have the insertion reported that neither counseling nor insertion was provided to them. 20 % of those who had the insertion said that timely counseling was done during antenatal period. The method related determinant to PPIUCD uptake was past experience and preference to alternative methods of contraception. 12 % of those who refused the insertion opted for other alternative methods. 50 % of those who accepted the insertion had previous bad experience and side effects of other alternative methods. 24 % of non users perceived that the method is generally ineffective and 30 % of users perceived that the method was effective and convenient because once inserted no need for frequent visits to the clinic. The study recommends putting in place strategies to improve uptake of the method by considering the client, provider and method related barriers and facilitators.