

Contraceptive use among immigrant and non-immigrant women seeking abortion care in Stockholm County

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Background

- Immigrant women seek induced abortion to a higher extent than non-immigrant women*
- Immigrants have less experiences of contraceptive use and are planning to use contraceptives to a lower extent after an induced abortion as compared to non-immigrants**

*Helström et al., 2003; Ostrach, 2013; Rademakers et al., 2005; Rasch et al., 2008; Sedgh et al., 2011; Vangen et al., 2008

** Helström et al., 2003; Prey et al., 2014; Wiebe 2013

Aim

To compare the use of and type of contraceptive methods ever in life, at conception and planned use after an induced abortion among immigrant and non-immigrant women in Stockholm County

Method

- Cross-sectional multicenter study
- Interview-based questionnaire
- Six abortion clinics, 55% of all abortions, in Stockholm County
- All women 18 years and older
- January-April 2015
- Interpreter if needed

Definition:

Immigrants = foreign-born women + 2nd generation migrants (born in Sweden with both parents born abroad according to Statistics Sweden)

Results



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- 425 (67%) non-immigrants and 212 (33%) immigrants
- Out of the immigrants, 148 (70%) were foreign-born and 64 (30%) 2nd generation migrants.

Results

	Non-immigrant	Foreign-born	2nd generation	Total (p-value)
<u>Contra-ceptives ever in life</u>	99%	89%	95%	96%
Pill	89%	63%	80%	83% (<0.001)
Condom	55%	50%	48%	53% (0.396)
Withdrawal	24%	12%	13%	20% (0.006)
Copper IUD	17%	24%	10%	18% (0.047)

Results

- **32%** of all women had used contraceptives **at conception**
- **Immigrants** used contraceptives at conception to a **lower extent** than non-immigrants ($p=0.047$)
- **Condoms** and **pills** were the two most common types

Results

- **93%** of all women **planned to use** contraceptives after the abortion
- **Immigrants** planned to use contraceptives to a **lower extent** than non-immigrants ($p=0.047$)
- **Hormone IUS** and **pills** were the two most common types
- Non-immigrants - vaginal ring – no side effects
- Foreign-born women - copper IUD - efficacy
- 2nd generation migrants - implant – long acting

Results

- **32%** of all women had used long acting reversible contraception (**LARC**) such as IUC and implants **ever in life**
- **53%** of all women **planned to use LARC** after the abortion
- A **significant difference** was seen where **non-immigrants planned to use LARC to a lower extent** compare to foreign-born women and 2nd gen. migrants

Conclusion

- **Immigrants - lower use of contraceptives ever in life, at conception and planned use** as compared to non-immigrants
- **Significant differences** were seen between non-immigrants, foreign-born women and 2nd generation migrants for different types of methods **ever in life** and **planned future method**

Clinical implication

- Efforts are needed to improve access to contraception especially among immigrants and to increase the use of LARC especially among non-immigrants

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