



## SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS AFFECTED WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE USING INTRAUTERINE DEVICES (IUDS)

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### ABSTRACT

Intrauterine devices (IUDs) use in Indonesia remains low (7.4%) compared to other contraceptive methods. In Langkat Regency, IUD coverage is only 5.2% of the total number of women with reproductive health problems (PUS), a decrease from the previous year (6.1%). Various socio-demographic, economic, socio-cultural, and health factors, and the role of health workers, are thought to influence women's decisions to use IUDs. The purpose of this study was to determine the influence of culture on the use of Intrauterine Device contraception in women of childbearing age. Method: An observational, analytical, quantitative survey with a cross-sectional design involving 296 women of childbearing age at Pangkalan Brandan Community Health Center (n=184) and Tangkahan Durian Community Health Center (n=112). The sample was selected using purposive sampling with inclusion criteria of women aged 15-49 years who are active family planning users. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire, the validity and reliability of the questionnaire were found to be very good (>0.75). The internal consistency reliability of this study was obtained with a Cronbach's coefficient of 0.938, and analyzed using the Chi-Square test to assess the relationship between variables. The results of the Chi-Square test of social norms with the use of IUD contraception, namely  $p=0.000$ , showed a significant relationship. Social norms are associated with the use of IUS contraception in women of childbearing age. A comprehensive education program, improved counseling quality, and strengthened social support are needed to increase IUD coverage in Langkat Regency.

Keywords: contraception; intrauterine devices (IUDs); socio-cultural; women

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## INTRODUCTION

Family Program Family Planning (KB) is an effort by the government to control population growth and increase family welfare through family planning arrangements. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), using effective contraception can lower maternal death by up to 40% in developing countries (WHO, 2021). In Indonesia, the family planning program has become integral to the national development strategy in health, reproduction, and population (Priyanti & Syalfina, 2017).

Intrauterine Device (IUD) or Intrauterine Contraceptive Device (IUD) is one of the methods of contraception with a long-term length that has high effectiveness, with a level of success reaching 99.4% (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 2023). In addition to its high effectiveness, the IUD has advantages such as long-term duration, good reversibility, and relatively low cost. Economical in terms of long (Speidel et al., 2020). In Indonesia, the IUD as a tool for effective contraception has a low failure rate, with 1-5 pregnancies occurring per 100 women. It can be used to press the number of births so that later, it can influence the population (Astuti, E. & Sardin, MYV, 2017).

Survey Data The 2022 Indonesian Demographic and Health Survey (SDKI) shows that use of contraception in Indonesia is still dominated by methods with short-term effects, with contraceptive injections by 63.7% and contraceptive pills by 17.8%. Meanwhile, using IUDs only reached 7.4% of the total active KB users (BKKBN, 2022). This shows a still low interest in the public to use

long-term methods of contraception, such as an IUD. Regency Langkat, as one of the regions in North Sumatra Province, recorded level the use of IUD contraception which is still low. Based on data from the District Health Office Langkat, in 2023, out of 157,234 couples of fertile age (PUS), only 5.2% use the IUD birth control method. This figure experienced a decline compared to 2022, which reached 6.1% ( District Health Office Langkat, 2023).

Socio-demographic factors play an important role in the method of contraception. Research conducted by Rahman et al. (2021) shows that level of education, age, and number of children significantly correlate with the use of IUD. PUS with higher levels of education tend to choose longer-term contraception methods compared to those with lower levels of education. Aspect the economy also becomes consideration main in election birth control method . Although the IUD has effectiveness good cost in term length , cost beginning relative installation tall can become obstacle for family with income low (Johnson et al., 2022). In the Regency Langkat , the majority of PUS come from from group economy medium to below , which can influence accessibility they to IUD birth control services .

Socio-cultural factors, including beliefs, values, and societal norms, have a significant influence on decision-making regarding IUD use. A study conducted by Widyastuti and Sari (2021) revealed that myths and misconceptions about IUDs still exist, developing in society, such as the assumption that the IUD can move or cause permanent infertility.

The role of power, health, and quality service health reproduction becomes crucial in increasing the adoption of IUD contraception (Shrivastav,2025). Research by Kumar et al. (2023) shows that comprehensive counseling and support from Power Health can increase IUD acceptance up to 45%. In the Regency of Langkat, the power health ratio is still inadequate for IUD installation, with only 1:5000 PUS. Support husband and family also play an important role in making decisions about using IUD contraception. According to research by Azizah and Pramono (2022), PUS who received support from their husbands are 3.5 times more likely to choose an IUD over one that does not get support. This shows the importance of involving husbands in family planning education and counseling programs. The purpose of this study was to determine the influence of culture on the use of Intrauterine Device contraception in women of childbearing age.

## **METHOD**

This study used a quantitative analytical observational cross-sectional design involving 296 women of childbearing age (WUS) at Pangkalan Brandan Community Health Center (n=184) and Tangkahan Durian Community Health Center (n=112). The sample was selected using purposive sampling with inclusion criteria of WUS aged 15-49 years who are active family planning users. The inclusion criteria were: Active family planning acceptors (WUS) domiciled in the work area. Community Health Center Tangkahan Durian and Community Health Center Pangkalan Brandan district are rare, women aged fertile (15-49 years) who have married and are willing to become respondents in the research. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria are as follows: Women with a medical condition that hinders using IUD and WUS Active KB Acceptors MKJP. Instruments in study: the Knowledge level questionnaire and the IUD use checklist. The validity and reliability of the questionnaire were found to be very good (>0.75), The internal consistency reliability of this study was obtained with a Cronbach's coefficient of 0.938. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire and analyzed using the Chi-Square test.

## **RESULT**

Table 1.  
Distribution Respondents Based on Community Norms

Social Norms	f	%
Does not support	142	48.0
Support	154	52.0

Table 1 shows the distribution of respondents based on societal norms regarding IUD use. Of the 296 respondents, the majority (154 respondents (52.0%)) stated that societal norms support IUD use, while 142 (48.0%) stated that they do not support IUD use.

Table 2.

Use of IUD	f	%
No	281	94.8
Yes	15	5.2

Table 2 shows the distribution of respondents based on their use of the IUD contraceptive method. The results showed that only 15 (5.2%) used an IUD, while the majority of respondents, 281 (94.8%), did not use an IUD.

Table 3.

Variables	Category	No IUD n (%)	with IUD n (%)	Total	p-value
Social Norms	Does not support	142 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	142	0,000
	Support	139 (90.3)	15 (9.7)	154	

Based on the analysis results showed that community norms were associated with IUD use ( $p = 0.000$ ). No respondents living in environments with unsupportive community norms used IUDs (100%), while 15 respondents (9.7%) used IUDs in environments with supportive community norms. These findings confirm that social and cultural factors in society strongly influence contraceptive behavior, including the choice of IUDs as a long-term contraceptive method.

## DISCUSSION

### The Influence of socio-cultural factors on the WUS decision to use IUD contraception

Research results show a significant connection between supporting husbands in using IUD contraception ( $p = 0.001$ ). All respondents who did not get support from their husbands recorded no use of IUD (100%), whereas in the group with support from their husbands, there were 15 people (8.9%) who used an IUD. Findings This is in line with the study Gusmaita et al. (2023), which reveals a significant connection between support partners and the use of IUD contraception in the local community of Batam ( $p = 0.001$ ). Other studies in India also show that involvement of a partner in making decisions is influential to the sustainable use of IUD, where several respondents stop using it because of opposition from their husbands or families. In general theoretical phenomena, this can be explained through the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), which emphasizes that subjective norm— namely, Influence from significant people, including couples — can influence intention until someone realizes behavior. Thus, support for the husband can strengthen intention and increase the realization of using an IUD because of a sense of legitimacy and approval in the household ladder (Akem,2024).

In addition, the research results also show a significant relationship between societal norms and the use of IUD contraception ( $p = 0.000$ ). There are no respondents who are IUD users in the group with societal norms that do not support (100% no use), while in the group with supportive societal norms, there were 15 people (9.7%) who used an IUD. Findings. This is in line with the results of Faryanti et al. (2022), who conducted a literature review, finding that social and family norms are a crucial factor in the use of modern contraception in Indonesia. Furthermore, interventions based on social norms have proven capable of influencing behavior reproduction, including long-term contraception, such as IUDs. Social Norms Theory (SNT) supports this. Results show that, with emphasis, individual perceptions against injunctive norms ( what is considered appropriate by society ) and descriptive norms ( what is generally done in society ) can push somebody to adapt their behavior (Rimal,2022). In other words, when social norms and the public support using IUDs, individuals will feel more accepted in a way that social norms choose (Ekambi,2025).

Based on research results and underlying theories, researchers assume that socio-cultural factors, in particular support for couples and social norms, are determinantly important in making the WUS decision to use IUD contraception. Support from husband gives legitimacy and a sense of security in making decisions, while societal norms are social pressure that encourages collective behavior

(Cheek,2024). Thus, the KB program intervention focuses on increasing the involvement of partners as well as strengthening supportive community norms. Modern contraception is believed to increase the adoption of IUDs more significantly.

## CONCLUSION

Social norms proven own influence significant to WUS decision in using an IUD. Respondents with support strong couples and supportive social norms tend more choosing an IUD.

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