

NOTES AND MEMORANDA

A MODEL FOR ESTIMATING BIRTHS AVERTED THROUGH IUCD INSERTIONS IN INDIA

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1. Introduction

Several attempts have been made recently to estimate the births averted through different family planning methods in India by authors like Agarwala (1968), Agarwala and Venkatacharya (1968), Stolnitz (1968), Venkatacharya (1971) and others. The number of births averted can be defined as the difference between the number of births that would have been expected from the group of couples had they not practised any of the existing methods of family planning and the number of births which actually occurred to the same group of couples after the contraceptive status they acquired under the programme. The computation of births averted due to a specific family planning programme requires special treatment instead of applying the usual population projection technique using age-specific fertility rates. The reason for this is that the adopters of family planning methods form a selective group from the population with respect to a number of demographic and biological characteristics, including the initial susceptibility status at the time of adoption. Considerable light has been shed in this direction by Potter (1969), Lee and Isbister (1965) and Agarwala and Venkatacharya (1968). Some of the conceptual problems related to the estimation of the births averted through the use of contraceptives have been also dealt with, recently, by Chandrasekaran *et al.* (1971). In the present paper a method of determining the births averted due to an IUCD in situ has been proposed through the application of a probability model. The approach adopted for calculating the births averted through an IUCD in situ has been discussed in Section 2 and the results have been summarised in Section 3.