

Abstract

Post-partum Amenorrhoea in Bangladesh : Levels and Differentials

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This paper identifies the effects of various socio-economic and demographic characteristics of mother on the mean duration of postpartum amenorrhoea (PPA) in Bangladesh. Survival analysis as well as the proportional hazard model technique have been applied for this purpose. This study is based on the data of a nation wide survey entitled 'Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS) 1996-97'. The information of the duration of PPA was collected through 'retrospective' (last but one child) (n=1,851) as well as 'current status' (last child) (n=4,972) reporting.

Findings showed that the mean duration of PPA was lower for the current status data than for the retrospective data, though the difference was statistically insignificant. A longer duration of PPA was observed for the longer duration of breastfeeding, higher parity, and higher age of mother at the birth of child. An inverse association of the duration of PPA was found with the education of husband and wife and high socioeconomic status of household. The study suggests that better nutrition leads to an early resumption of the menstruation. However, the difference obtained from the survival analysis of the trimean duration of PPA was not statistically significant for the same mothers (n=1,851) who supplied PPA information for both the data sets.