

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF FEMALE STUDENTS TOWARDS  
EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVES IN PRIVATE**

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## ABSTRACT

Despite the availability of effective contraceptive methods, unintended pregnancy continues to be a significant health problem for women throughout the world. The reasons for unplanned pregnancy include failure to use contraception, incorrect use of contraception, unplanned consensual intercourse, and rape. Emergency contraceptive pills (ECPs) have become more available in many developing countries. However, limited knowledge and negative attitudes, as well as poor user awareness and access, have hindered adolescents in learning about and using emergency contraceptives pills. A few researches have been done in Malaysia to determine the knowledge and attitude of female students towards emergency contraceptives pills. A descriptive cross sectional research study conducted with a total of 80 female students aged 18 to 30 years in private university in Malaysia. This study objective was to assess the knowledge and attitude among the female university students. Low awareness about emergency contraception among the female university students was found. Even among those who were aware, the detail knowledge of EC was very low. The respondents had a negative attitude towards the emergency contraceptive pills and these findings might be due to lack of knowledge. There is a need to educate students about emergency contraceptives, with emphasis on available methods and correct timing of use. There should be health promotion of emergency contraceptives to enhance their knowledge and making them easily accessible in hospital, pharmacies and university student clinic with. Finally health education program should be included to the university students to avail accurate information about emergency contraceptive pills.