

*Knowledge, Attitude and Current  
Practice of Family Planning among  
Women in Balik Pulau*

Community Residency Programme (CRP)

Phase IIIA

Balik Pulau 2004

# Introduction

- What is family planning?
- Why do women practice family planning?
- In general, the ability to space and limit childbearing can increase women's autonomy and allow women and men of greater control over their lives.
- Use of FP also improves health by enabling women to bear children during the healthiest times for themselves and children.
- FP is of special significance in the district of Barat Daya due to *high* population growth rate (4.3%) as compared to overall population growth rate in Pulau Pinang (1.5%).

# Objectives

Our objectives of study is to assess:-

- The knowledge of family planning
- Attitudes towards family planning
- Current practice of family planning
- Association between educational level and practice of family planning.
- Association between educational level and the actual no. of children in a family.

# Materials and methods

## *Study design:*

- Cross- sectional

## *Study period:*

- 7th – 18th June 2004

## *Study area:*

- Conducted in Balik Pulau which is situated in Daerah Barat Daya of Pulau Pinang
- Total population in Barat Daya: 159 129
- Break down of ethnic group:-
  - Malay: 60%
  - Chinese: 29%
  - Indians: 7%
  - Others: 4%

## *Study population:*

- Women who are legally married
- Neither widowed nor divorced
- Have not attained menopause

## *Method:*

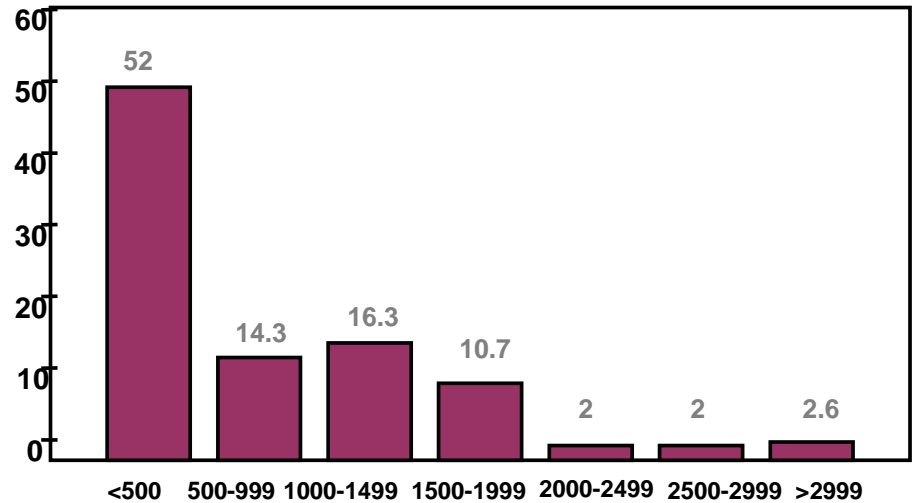
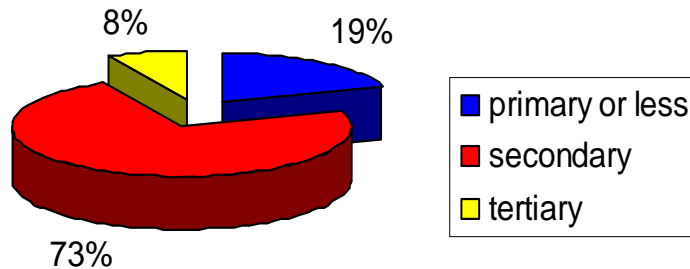
- Questionnaire based survey
- Study title, objectives and operational definitions were identified
- Questionnaire was prepared in BM and was pre-tested.
- Responses of the actual interview were recorded in a standardized manner and analyzed
- Certain data was cross-tabulated and level of significance was set at 0.05.

# Results : General

Age (years)	Ethnic groups				Total
	Malay	Chinese	Indian	Others	
<20	1	0	0	0	1 (0.5%)
20-29	32	3	0	1	36 (18.4%)
30-39	68	4	0	0	72 (36.7%)
40-49	60	7	1	1	69 (35.2%)
>49	11	6	1	0	18 (9.2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>172 (87.8%)</b>	<b>20 (10.2%)</b>	<b>2 (1.0%)</b>	<b>2 (1.0%)</b>	<b>196 (100%)</b>

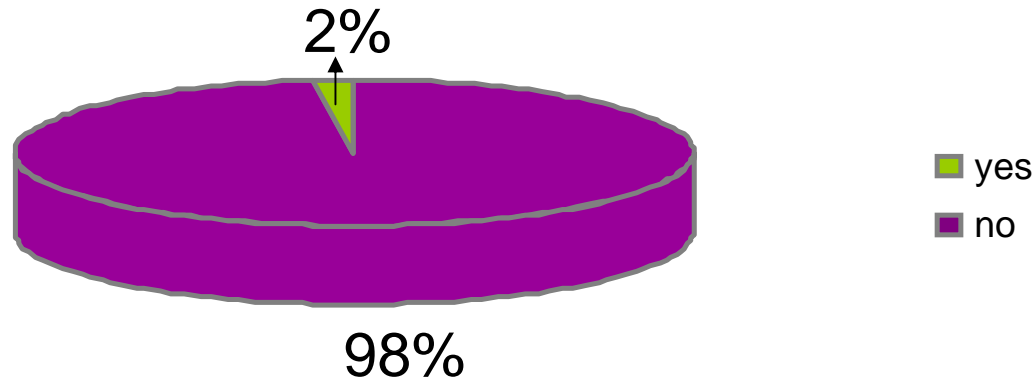
## Percentage (%)

### Educational level

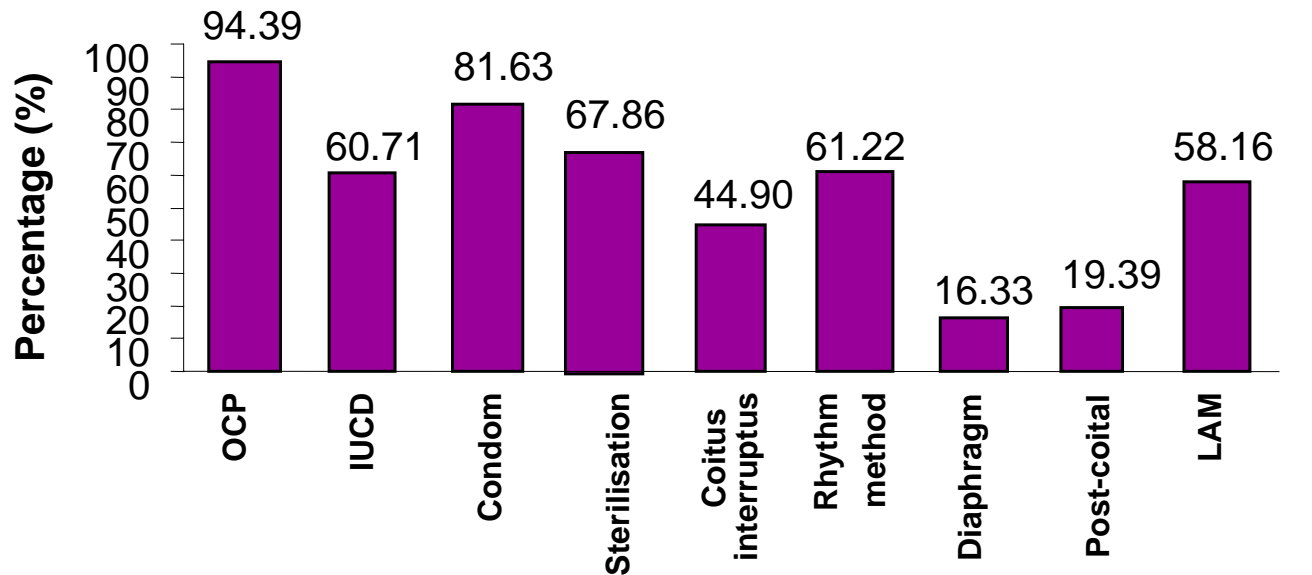


### Total monthly income (RM)

# Results: Knowledge

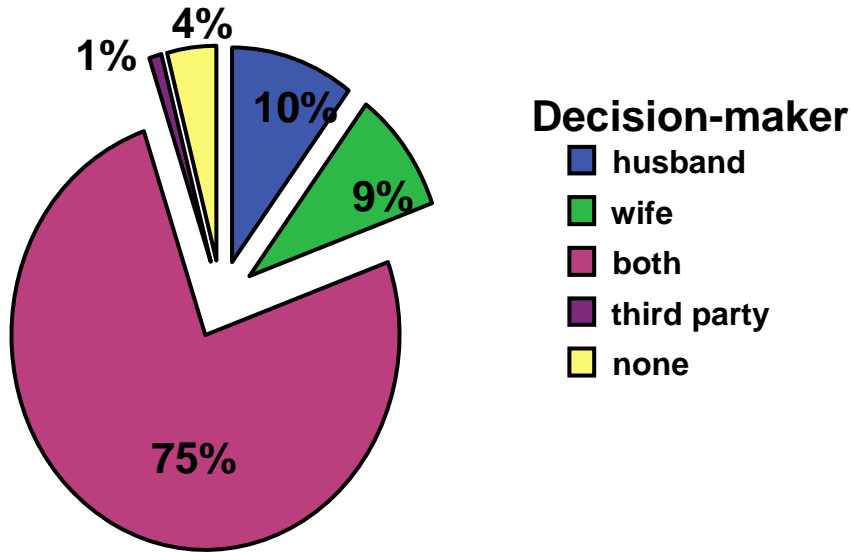


## Awareness of family planning

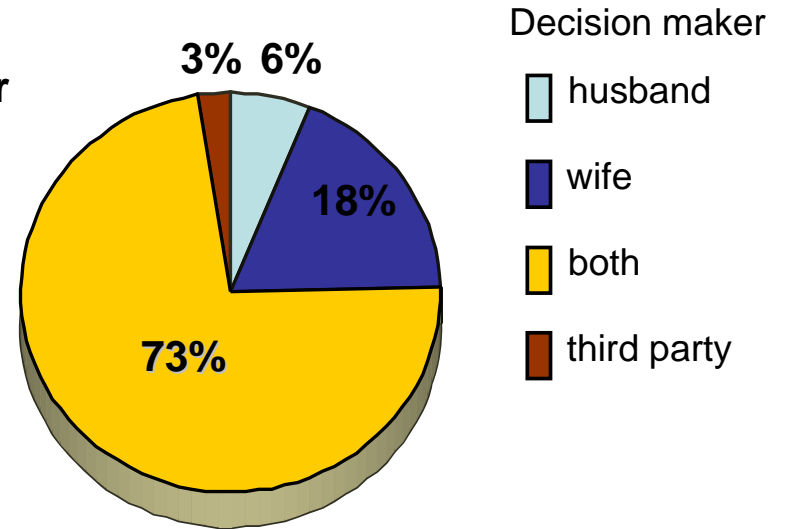


## Knowledge of the types of contraceptive method

# Results: Attitude



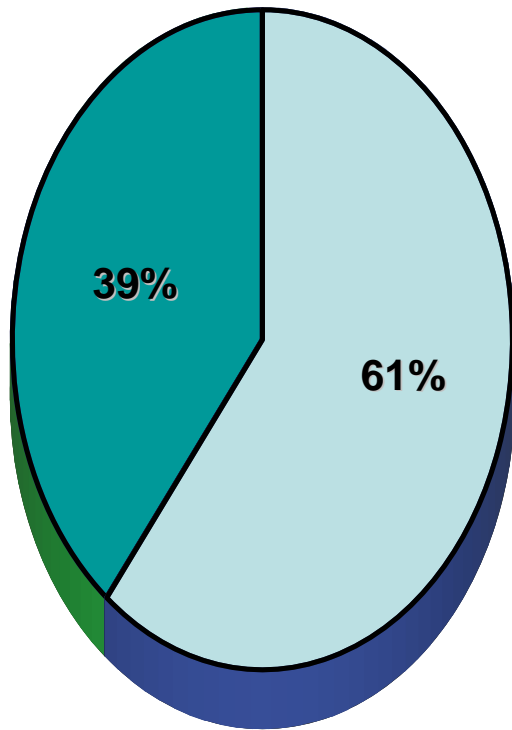
**Respondents' perception on who should decide the number of children in a family**



**Respondents' perception on who should decide the type of contraception used**

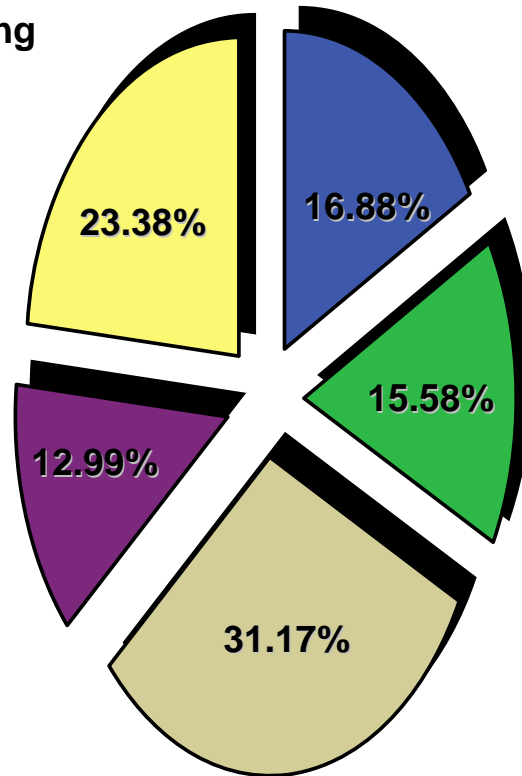
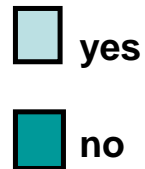


# Results:Practice



The practice of family planning among the study population

currently practicing family planning

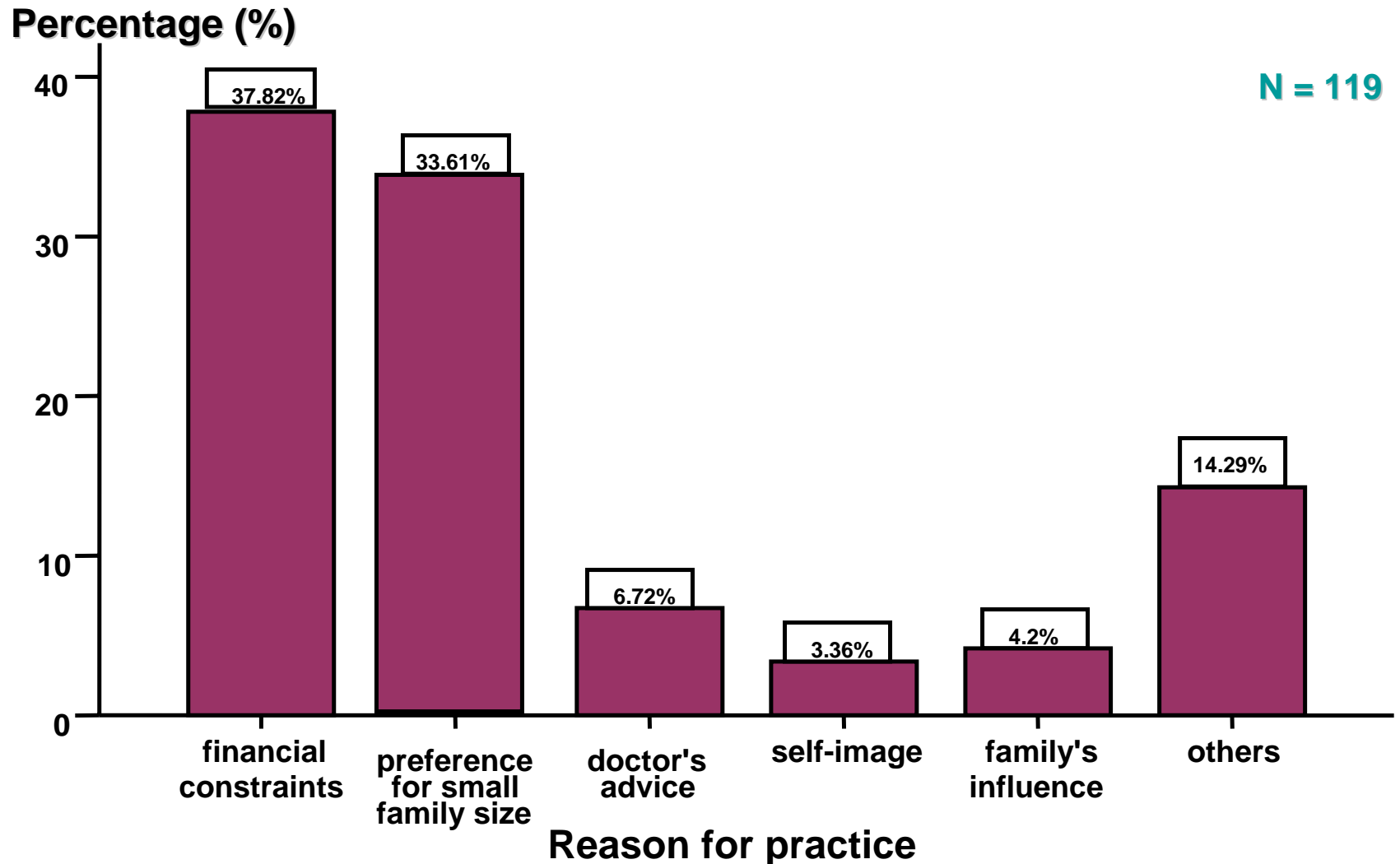


reasons for not practice

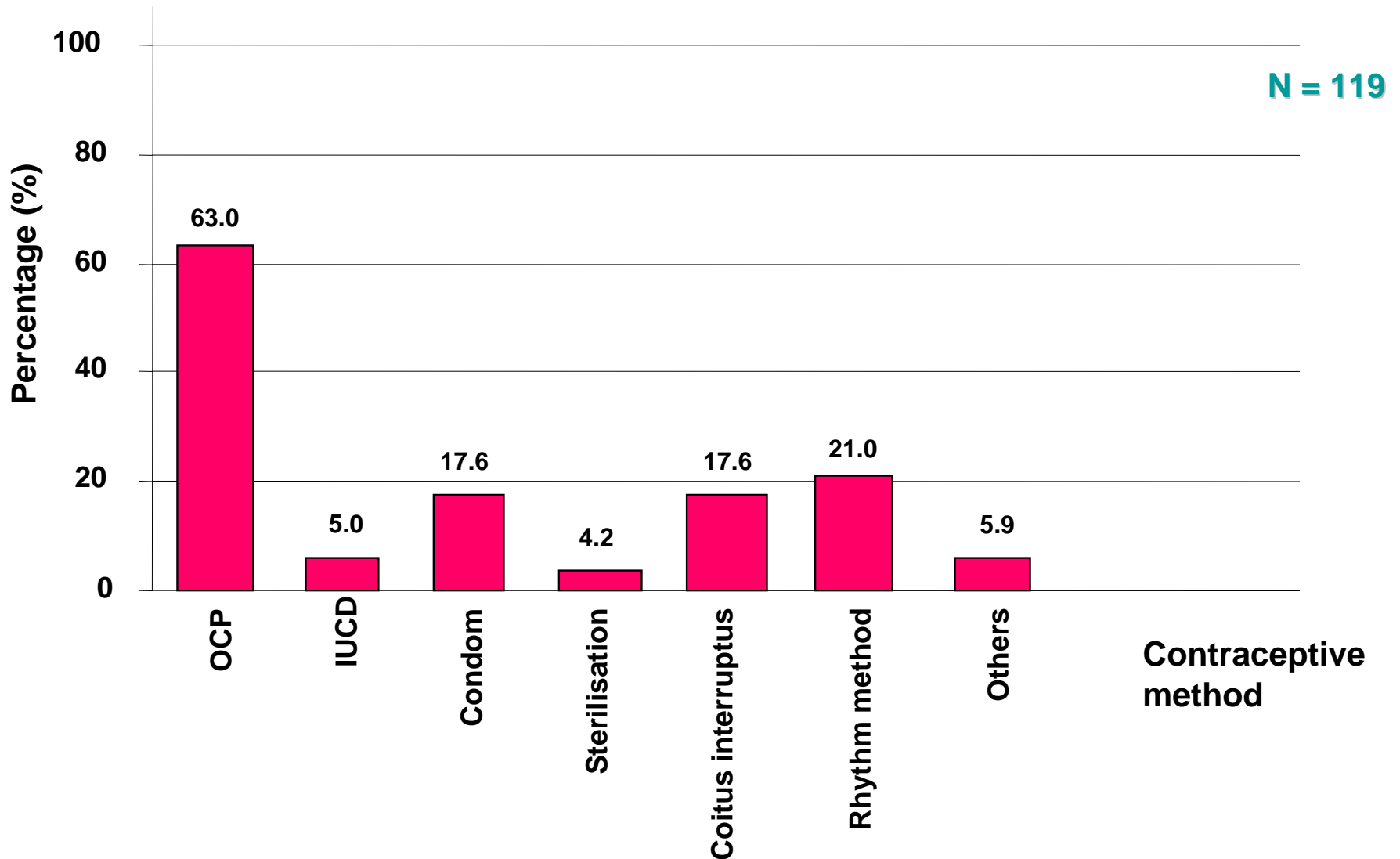


Reasons for not practicing family planning among the study population

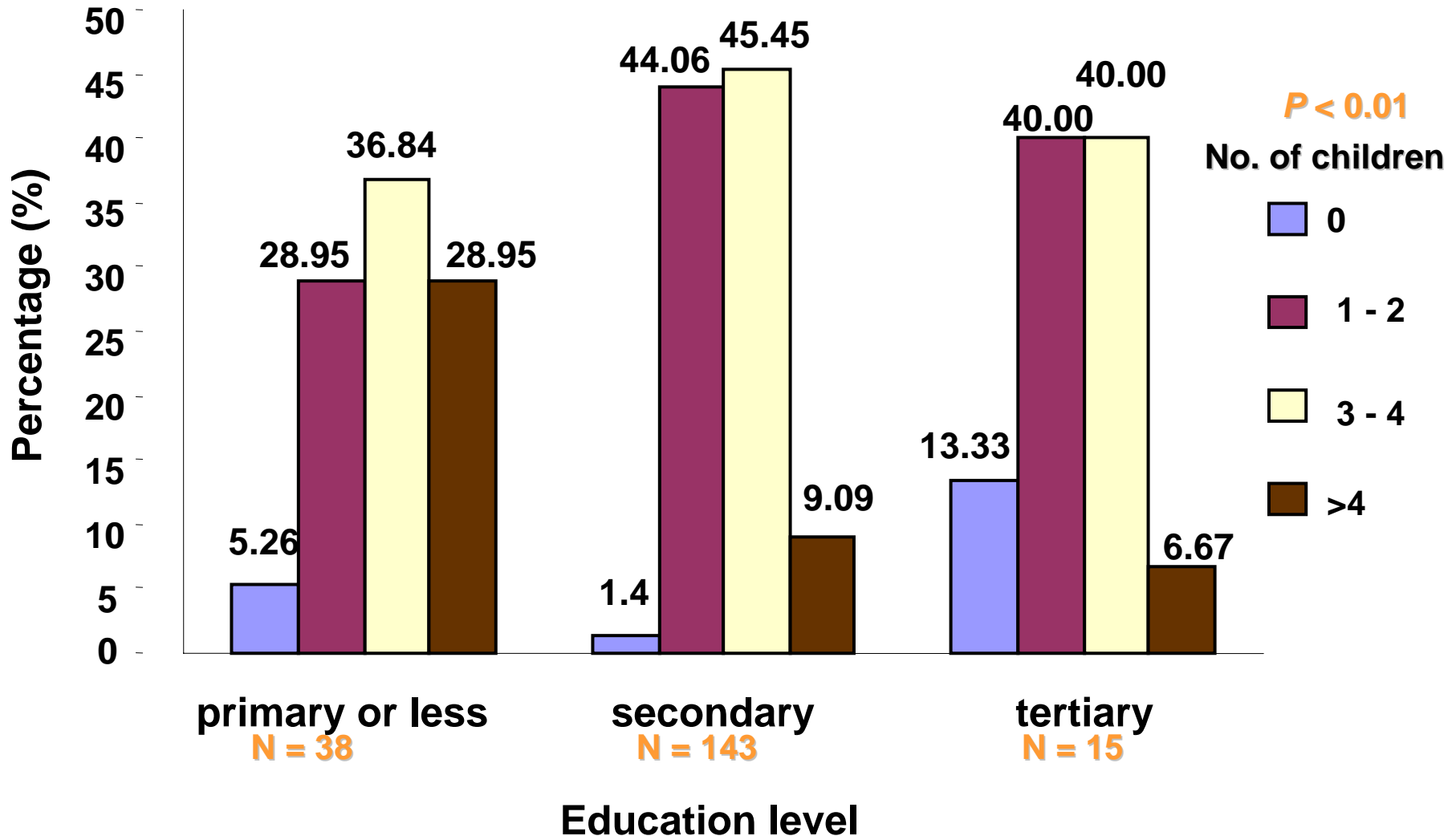
# Reasons for practicing family planning among the study population



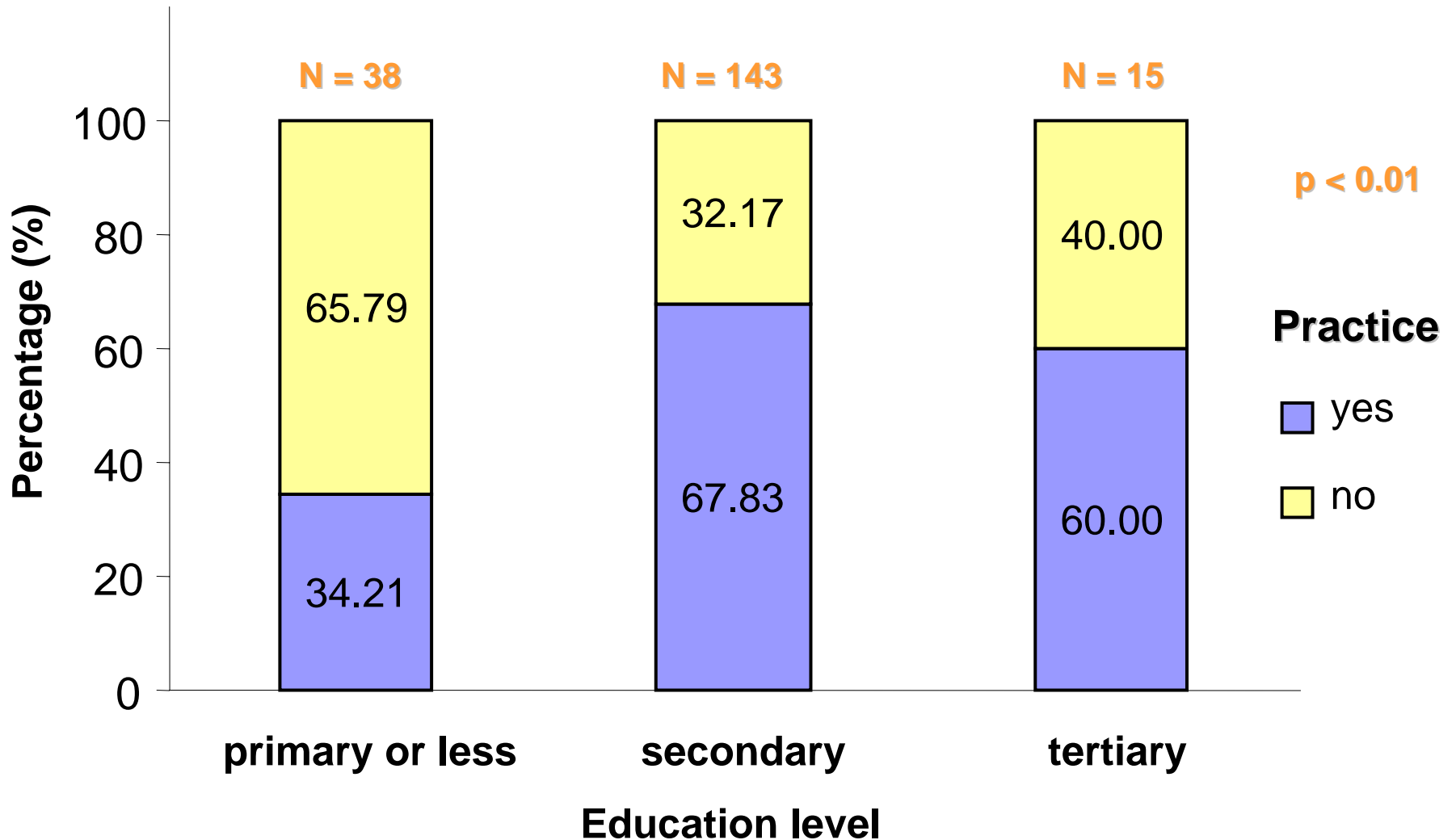
# Types of contraceptive method used among the study population



# Association between education level and the number of children among respondents



# Association between education level and the practice of family planning among the study population



## ***Limitations***

- Difficulty in obtaining appropriate subjects
- Sensitive issues
- Study design:- cross-sectional
- Time constraint

## ***Recommendations***

- Utilization of mass media
- Emphasis on LAM
- Knowledge on usage of various contraceptive methods
- Husbands targeted for family planning

# Conclusions

- Our study revealed good knowledge: more than 2/3 know at least 3 types of contraceptive method
- Respondents have favorable attitude regarding FP issues.
- Only 61% were found to have accepted some forms of FP, among which OCPs is the most widely practiced.
- Financial constraints cited as the most common reason of practicing FP.
- The higher the level of education, the more likely is the woman to practice FP
- The higher the level of education, the more likely she is to have lesser number of children.

# Acknowledgement

We would like to express our sincere thanks to :-

1. Officers and staff of the District Health Office of Balik Pulau
2. Officers and staff of the District Office of Balik Pulau
3. Residents of Balik Pulau
4. Our supervisor, Dr Noran Naqiah Hairi