

**ABSTRACT****The Influence of Husband's Perceptions about Contraception and Wife's Involvement in Decision Making Towards Unmet Need for Family Planning for Couple in Childbearing Age in Benjeng District**

Unmet need for family planning is an ongoing phenomenon particularly in developing countries. Unmet need is defined as the percentage of women in childbearing age (15-49 years) with marital status who either have no intention for adding more child or to delay the next pregnancy without the use of contraceptive methods. This study aims to analyze the influence of husband's perceptions about contraception and wife's involvement in decision making towards unmet need for family planning for couple in childbearing age in Benjeng District. This study is an observational analytic study using case-control study design. The sample size of 36 respondents is divided into two groups of couples, as many as 18 respondents in control groups and the remaining 18 respondents in case group are selected using random cluster sampling using questionnaires. Data analysis is conducted using Multiple Logistic Regression. The results show that the husband's perception about contraceptive tools, with  $p$ -value = 0.004 ( $p < 0.05$ ) and OR = 0.110. Several variables are not significant, namely the variables of age with  $p$ -value = 0.998 ( $p > 0.05$ ), incomes with  $p$ -value = 0.996 ( $p > 0.05$ ), occupation with  $p$ -value = 0.995 ( $p > 0.05$ ), number of living children with  $p$ -value = 0.997 ( $p > 0.05$ ), education with  $p$ -value = 1.000 ( $p > 0.05$ ), giving communication, information and education, with  $p$ -value = 0.998 ( $p > 0.05$ ) and the wife's involvement in decision-making with a  $p$ -value = 0.997 ( $p > 0.05$ ). It can be inferred that the husband's perception about contraception influenced the incidence of unmet need for family planning in which husband's poor perception about contraception tends to cause unmet need for family planning. It is recommended that the local agencies, such as 'Family Planning and Women's Empowerment Agency' (KBPP) in Gresik to continue and to improve advocacy to the stakeholders, in particular to local religious leaders in Benjeng district, and to conduct a review of the implementation of the communication, information and education on how the material is presented as well as the method used in delivering the message, so that better understanding for the husbands regarding to the importance of the use of contraceptives tools can be attained.

**Keywords:** Family Planning, Husband's Perception, Unmet Need, Wife's Engagement