

## **Perceptions of Community on Post-Contraceptive Care by Primary Health Care System in Tribal and Rural Areas of Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh**

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**ABSTRACT** The present paper reports the perceptions of community on post-contraceptive care provided by the staff of primary health care system among tribal and rural population of Andhra Pradesh, India. The study has been conducted in two tribal and two rural primary health centres of Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. Quantitative data were collected from married women of the age up to 40 years. Qualitative data through in-depth interviews with key-informants were also collected. The predominant contraception method among both tribal and rural areas was female sterilization, i.e., tubectomy. The government institutions were the main source of contraception in both tribal and rural areas. Though, the quality of pre and post contraception care among the community is very important, the perceptions of the community on post-contraception care were not at desirable levels. These findings emphasise the continuing need to strengthen post-operative care and counselling for sterilization acceptors. These indicators of contraceptive service outreach were poor among scheduled tribe population and situation was not fair in rural areas also. Thus, the centralized top-down planning of healthcare services could not facilitate the tribal and rural people to articulate needs for services.