

Contraceptive use and uptake

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BACKGROUND

- MDP 301 is a phase III clinical trial testing the efficacy and safety of 0.5% and 2% PRO 2000/5 vaginal microbicides in preventing HIV infection.
- High pregnancy rates continue to pose a challenge impacting on the power of study to show efficacy.

OBJECTIVES

To determine reasons for lack of contraceptive use among women of reproductive age.

METHODOLOGY

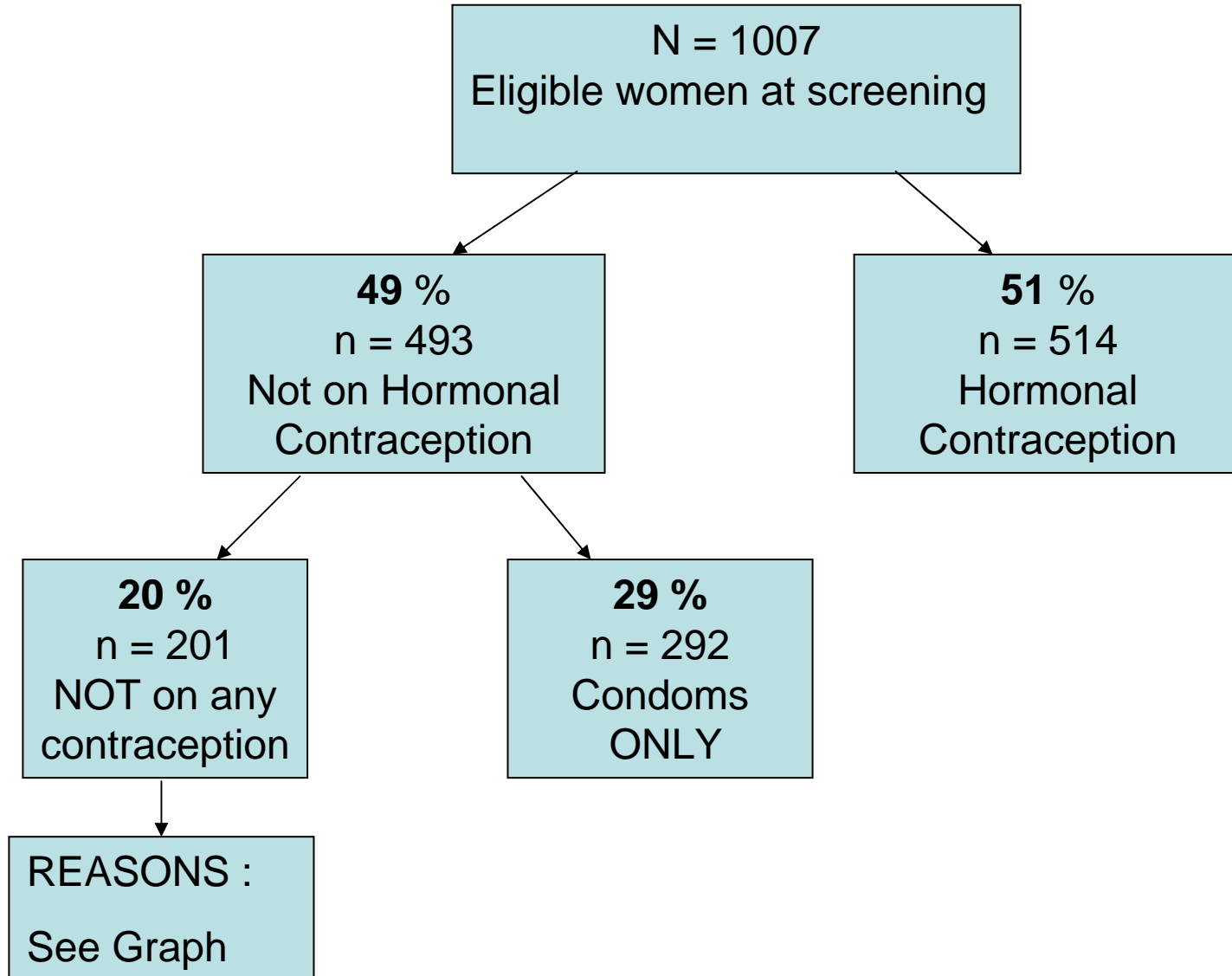
- Contraception data collected during sexual behaviour interviews was analysed.
- This was a retrospective review of the sexual behaviour interviews of the first 1007 eligible women screened.

Methods of Contraception

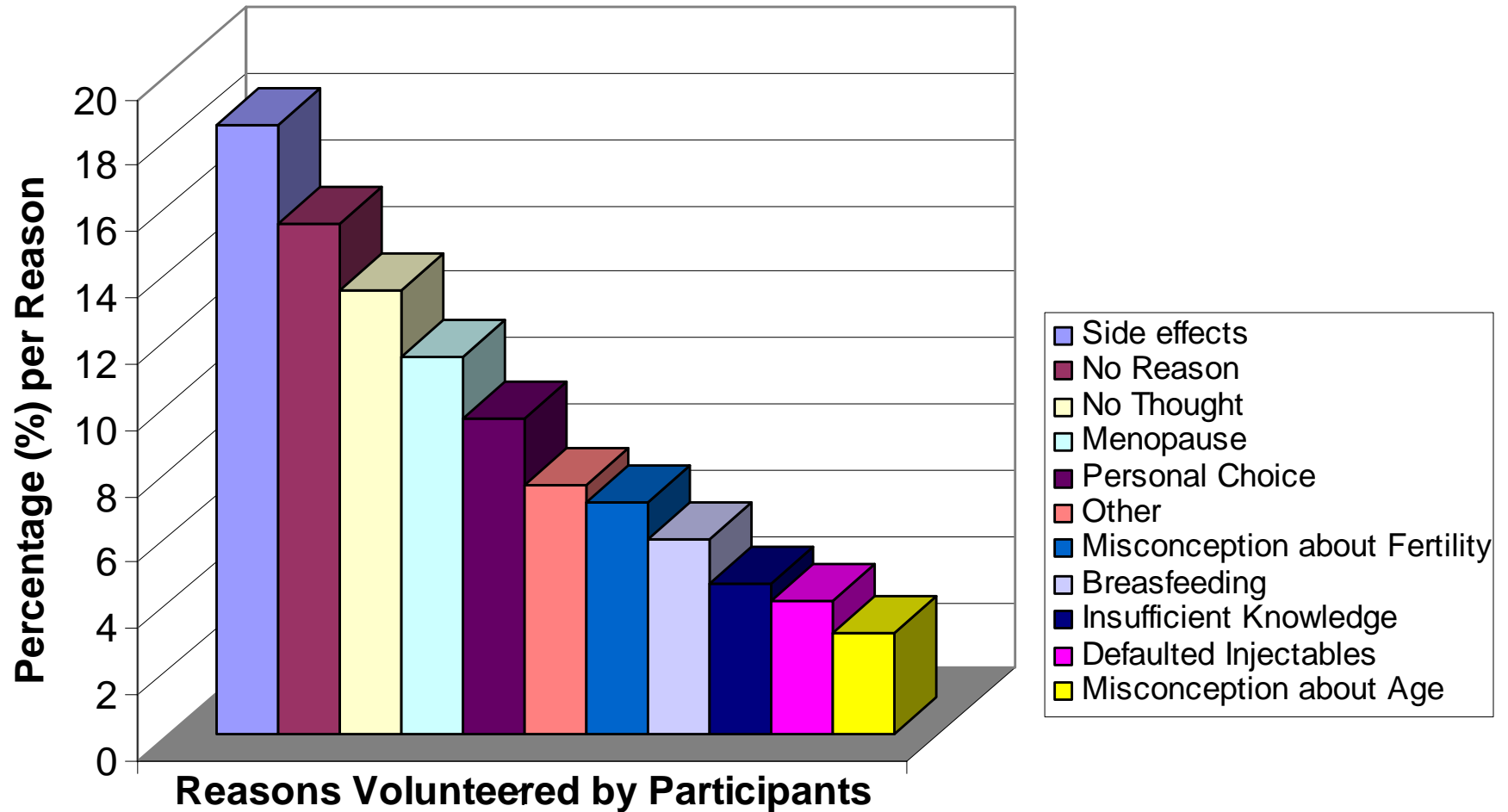




RESULTS



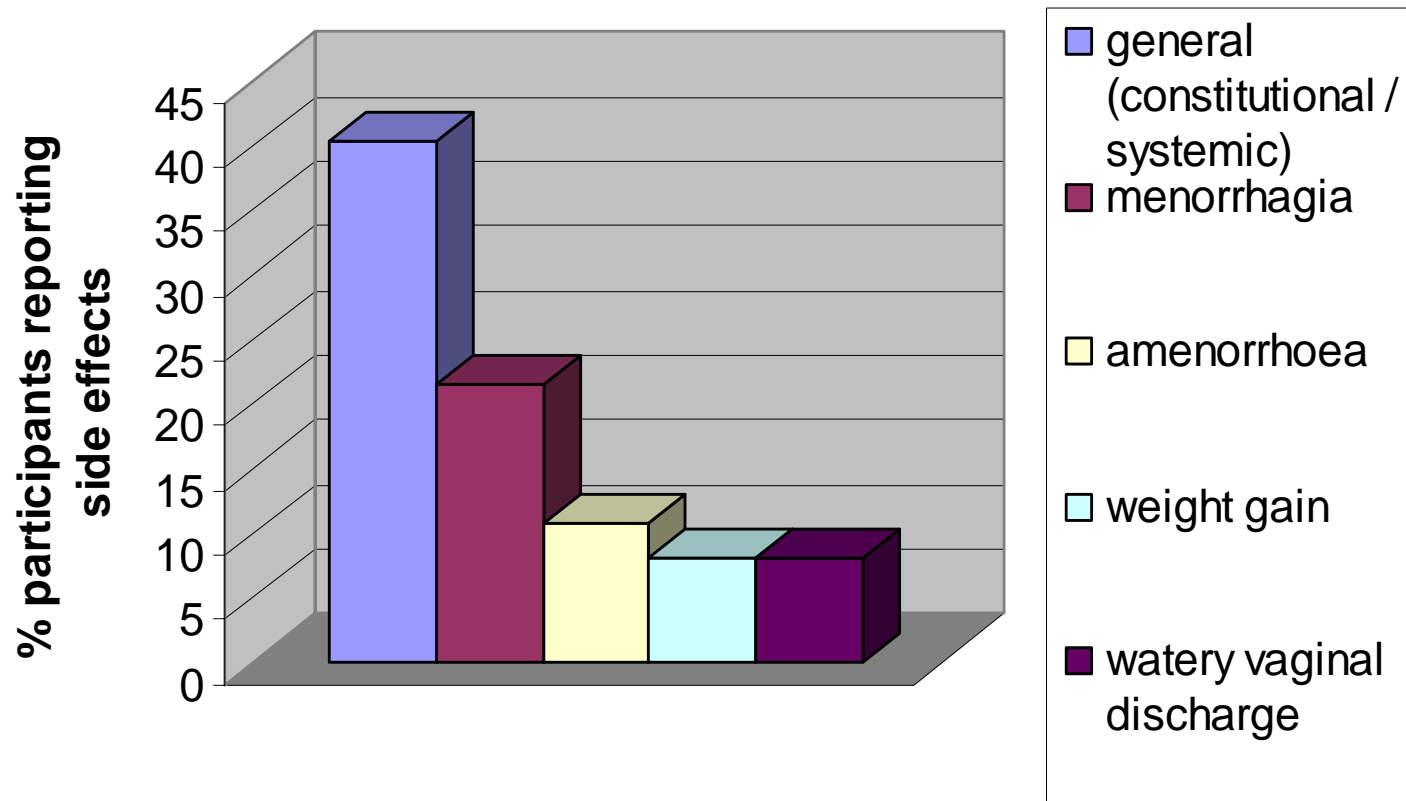
Reasons for Lack of Contraception Use



OTHER included the following :

- Partner opposition
- Parental Opposition
- Hypertension
- Religious reasons
- Assumption partner is infertile
- Previous pregnancy whilst on contraception

Most Common Side Effects



CONCLUSIONS

- 49% of participants are not on hormonal/reliable contraception.
- Side effects are a common concern for participants.
- A significant percentage of participants provided no reason for lack of contraception use or admitted to not having given it much thought.
- Insufficient family planning education is available to women in our communities.
- HIV prevention trials should invest in family planning issues to ensure safety of participants and minimal drop outs.
- Hormonal contraceptives with low side effect profiles eg. the hormonal patch and new generation oral contraceptives should be made available.
- Quality of care is important in ensuring women make informed decisions that they will be able to adhere to.
- In the first few months after initiation of a new contraceptive method, regular clinic visits are important as some side effects may appear more severe early on and influence a participant's decision to discontinue the method.
- Field education visits can increase community awareness of family planning and address common myths.

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Research Participants

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