



# The knowledge and attitude regarding the contraceptive methods and its association to inter pregnancy interval among multiparous mothers in Colombo North Teaching Hospital



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## Introduction

Among pregnant mothers we have noticed that there is a considerable prevalence of short inter pregnancy interval (less than 18 months) with lack of contraceptive knowledge and poor attitudes for contraception. Short inter-pregnancy interval enhance the serious complication to both mother and child . So the results of this study may helps to assess of knowledge ,attitude on contraceptive methods and the co-relation between inter-pregnancy interval and basic knowledge of the contraception.

## Objective

To assess knowledge, attitude regarding the contraceptive methods and its association to the inter pregnancy interval of individual multiparous mothers in Colombo North Teaching Hospital.

## Method

**Study design** – Analytical cross sectional study

**Study setting** – Colombo North Teaching Hospital

**Study population** - Pregnant mothers who get admitted in obstetrics Wards and outpatient clinics in Colombo North Teaching Hospital.

Exclusion criteria – Primiparous mothers, mothers who had a miscarriage just prior to the current pregnancy, critically ill pregnant mothers, poor literacy mothers .

**Sample size** – 320

**Study instruments** - Self-administrated questionnaire in two languages (Sinhala and English).

**Data collection** – A self administered questionnaire was distributed among pregnant mothers meeting inclusion criteria.

**Data analysis** - Categorical data will be described using percentages. Significant association will be determined using chi-square. Analysis will be processed through SPSS software to find out in level of knowledge and attitude for individual contraceptive methods as well as overall contraceptive methods.

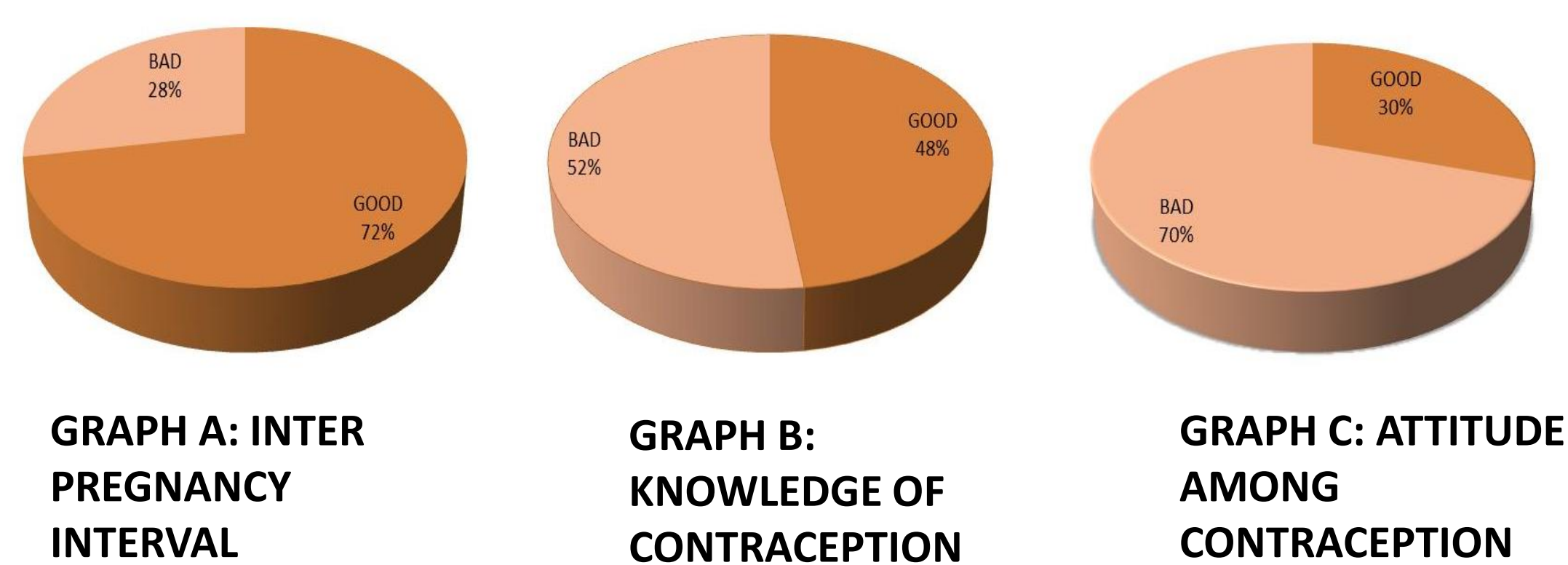
## Results

**Table.1** shows that 62.06% of the sample are between the age of 25-29 Yrs and 72.7% has educated at least up to A/L.

General demographic information of participants		
AGE		
	n	%
<18 yrs.	0	0%
18-24 yrs.	55	17.24%
25-29 yrs.	198	62.06%
30-34 yrs.	55	17.24%
>35 yrs.	11	3.44%
EDUCATION STATUS		
	n	%
O/L	87	27.27%
A/L	115	36.05%
Higher education	117	36.67%
ANNUAL INCOME		
	n	%
<300,000	40	12.53%
300,000 - 800,000	181	56.73%
>800,000	98	30.72%

TABLE.1

**Figure.1 Graph.A** shows,72% are having good inter-pregnancy interval ( $\geq 18$  months).**Graph.B** shows 48% are having good knowledge regarding contraception.**Graph.C** shows 30% are having good attitudes towards contraception.



**Figure.2** Shows majority of the participants are having a better knowledge for Mithuri and Condom among other contraceptive methods.

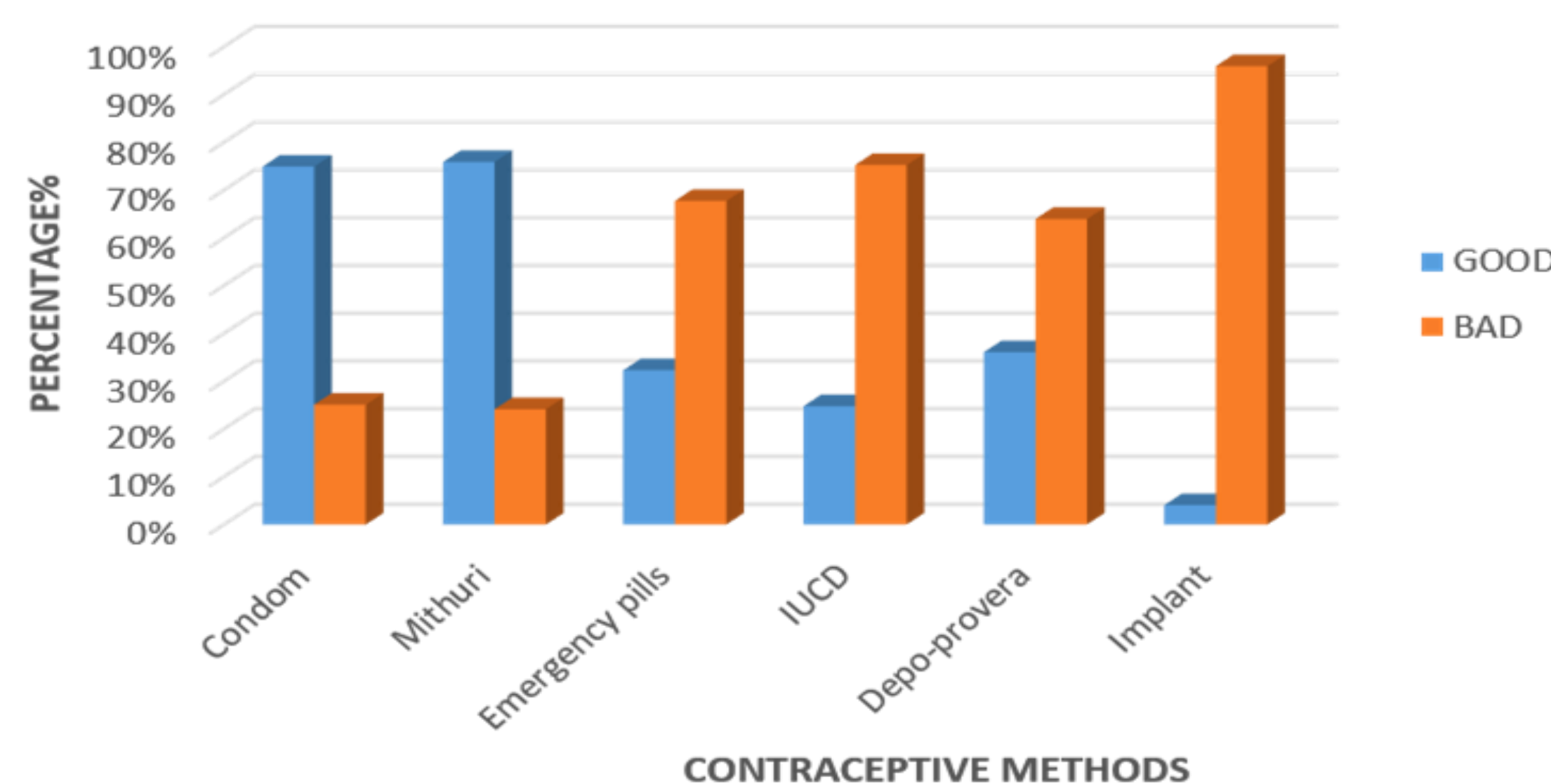


FIGURE.2 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE

**Figure.3** Shows majority of the participants are having good attitudes for contraceptive tablets (Mithuri) among other contraceptive methods.

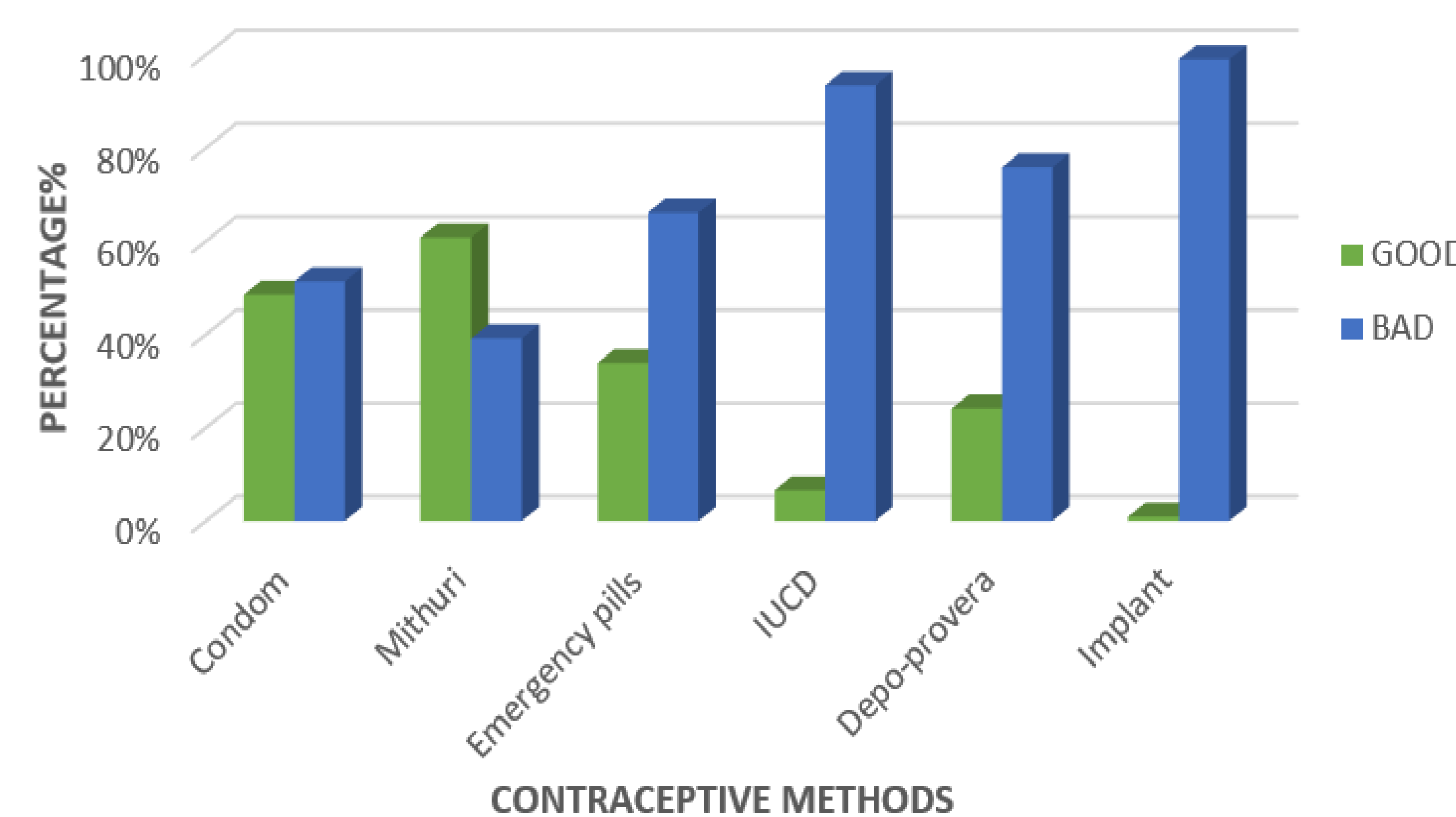


FIGURE.3 ATTITUDES FOR CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

**Figure.4** Shows 53.29% of the participants who are having good inter interval pregnancy period have a good knowledge.



FIGURE.4 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE WITH INTER-PREGNANCY INTERVAL

INTER PREGNANCY INTERVAL	GOOD KNOWLEDGE	BAD KNOWLEDGE
>18 months	105	92
<=18 months	48	74

TABLE.2 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE WITH INTER-PREGNANCY INTERVAL

**Figure.5** Shows 25-29 Yrs age group is having better knowledge than other age groups.

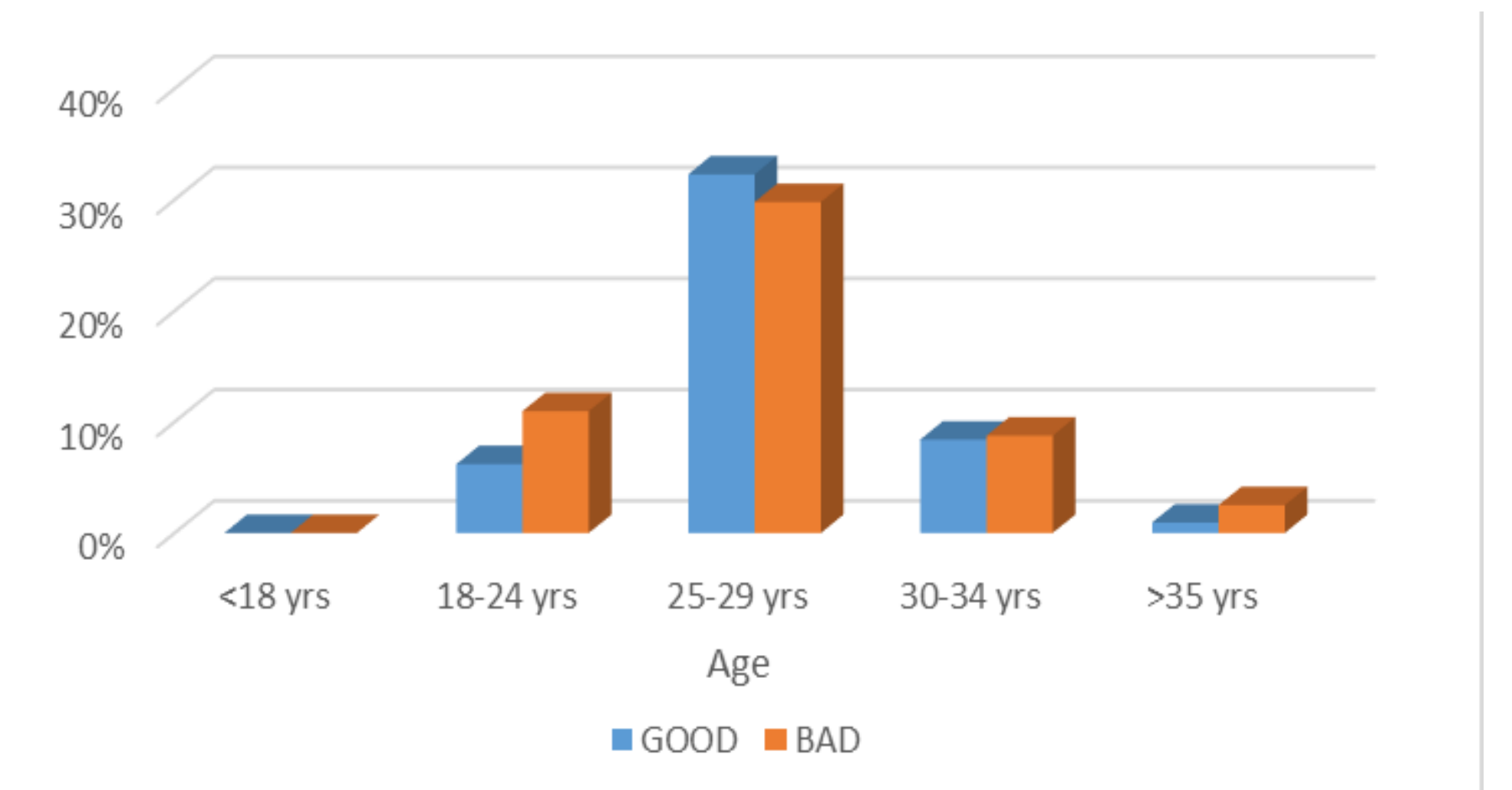


FIGURE.5 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE WITH AGE GROUPS

**Figure.6** Shows majority of the participants who are having good knowledge are well educated up the higher education level.

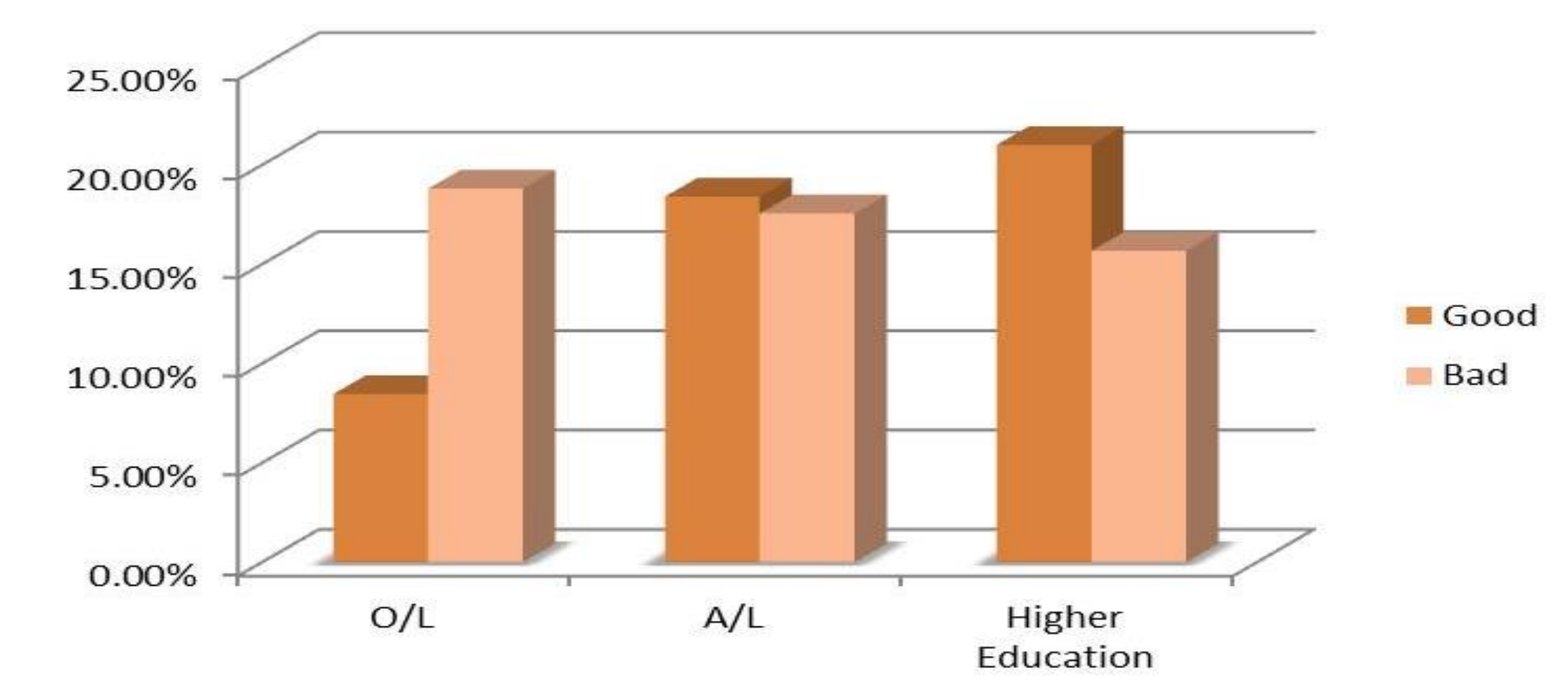


FIGURE.6 CONTRACEPTIVE KNOWLEDGE WITH EDUCATION

❖ The analyzed p value 0.016. So there is a statically significant association between knowledge of contraceptive methods and good inter-pregnancy interval .

## Conclusion

- ❖ 47.81% of participants among 320 have a good knowledge regarding contraceptive while 52.19% don't .
- ❖ Majority of sample have a good knowledge regarding condoms(74.68%) & Contraceptive tablets(Mithuri) (74.68%) than other contraceptive methods. But majority of the participants are having good attitudes for contraceptive tablets (Mithuri)(60.62%) among other methods.
- ❖ 28.13% of sample have shorter inter pregnancy interval (<18 months) .
- ❖ Shows 53.29% of the participants who are having good inter-pregnancy interval period have a good knowledge.
- ❖ So this analyzed study showing the positive correlation between contraceptive knowledge and inter-pregnancy interval ,suggests that poor knowledge regarding contraceptive methods leading them to have lesser inter-pregnancy interval which may affect their pregnancies.

## References

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