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Birth spacing and its cov arites: an application of life table and cox regression model

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Abstrak

Analysis of birth interval has recently been proved to be a powerful tool for a complete understanding of the process of amily building. In this study an attempt has been made to analyze the birth spacing pattern and its covariates using data from the 2004 Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS). The results suggest that the distribution of first to fifth birth intervals is asymmetric and the curve of the distributions is leptokurtic. The life table analysis indicates thet women taken their first birth with an average of 23 months from marriage and for subsequent births these intervals are about 29 months to 31 months. Cox regression model reveals that child survival status, region of residence and couples' education are important covariates that strongly influence the length of birth interval. Of all the covariates studied other factors such as female's age at first marriage, spousal age difference, contraceptive use and respondenst's work status have also significant effect on birth interval, greater at first birth but at a lesser extent to higher order birth