



QUESTIONNAIRE STUDY OF USE OF EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION AMONG TEENAGERS

**Zdravkovska M., Taushanova B., Isjanovska
R., Zafirova B., Pavlovska I.**

**Institute of Epidemiology , Medical Faculty,
Skopje, R. Macedonia**



Aim of the study

- **Aim of the study is to get the information and frequency of emergency contraception use, as well as sexual activity, among teenagers in ages 15 to 18 in Skopje.**



Material and Methods:

- **Study design included questioning 638 teenagers, females, at the age between 15 and 18 years, in four secondary schools in the area of Skopje in 2010. The authors used the anonymized questioning for real responses obtaining.**
- **The results were analysed with descriptive and analytical epidemiological method.**



Results:

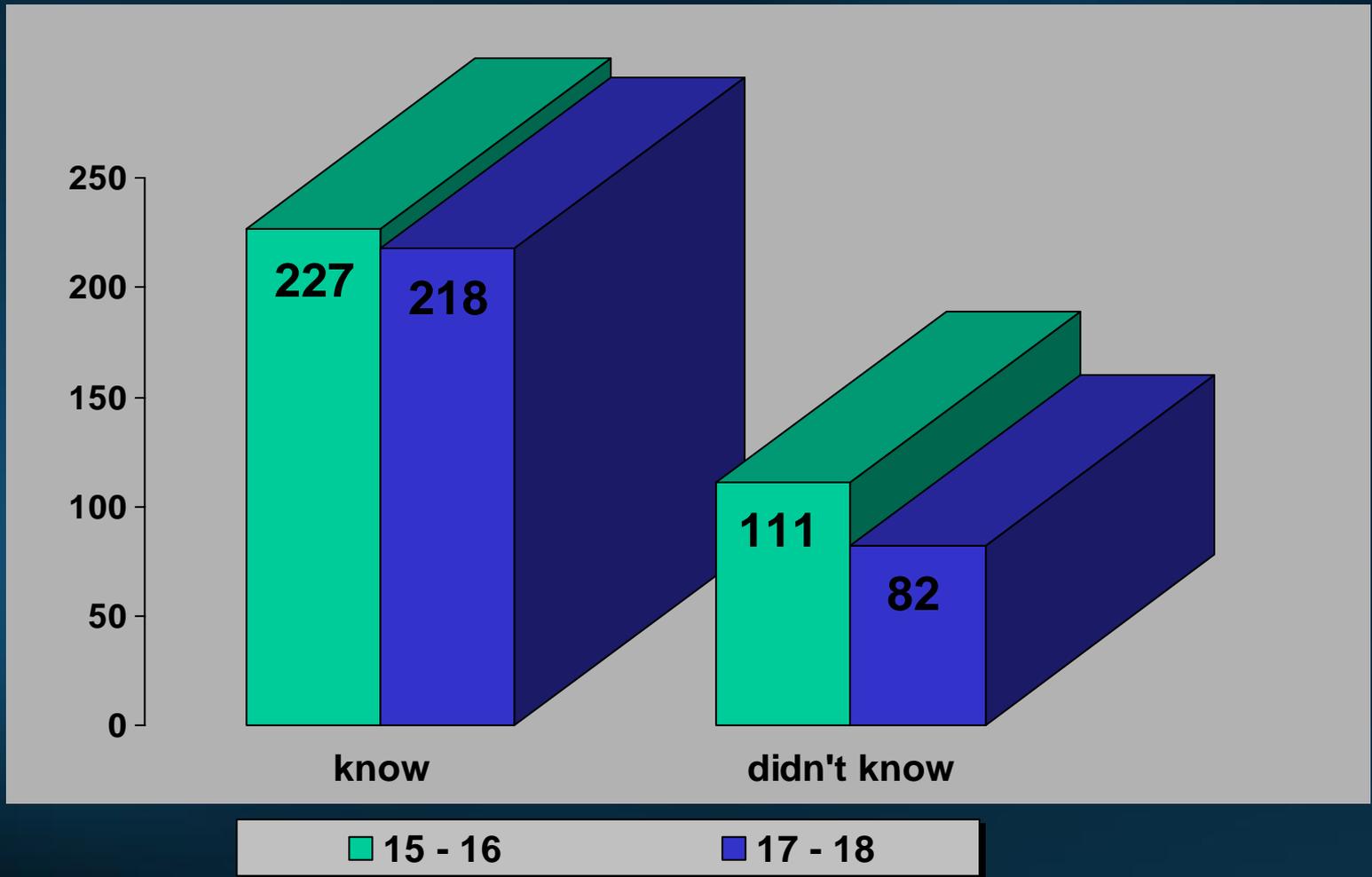
- The paper presents the results for girls in secondary schools from the cohort 1995 (mean age of 15,8 yrs., range 15,3-16,2) and 1994 (mean age of 16,6 and range 16,3-17,4), as well as for girls in upper secondary schools from the cohort 1993 (mean age 17,9 with range 17,5-18,8 yrs.).

What is emergency contraception?

- Only 33% of the 15-16 years old and 27,5% of the 17-18 years old didn't know what emergency contraception is.

years	know	didn't know
15 - 16	227 (67%)	111 (33%)
17 - 18	218 (72,5%)	82 (27,5%)

What is emergency contraception?





The proportion of girls who had used emergency contraception increased with age from 2,1% (15-16y) to 15,1% (18-19y).

- Two thirds of all girls who had used emergency contraception had used it only once.**

Number of use emergency contraception	
only once	use > 3 times
431	207
(67,6%)	(32,4%)

- 
- **In secondary schools 7,3% of 15 years olds (cohort 1995) and 16,8% of 16 years olds (cohort 1994) had sexual intercourse, while among 17 – 18 years olds (cohort 1993) this percent was 41,5%.**
 - **Information about the usage of contraception and consultations with gynecologist about that have had only 57 (8,9%) from the girls that were included in the survey and most of them searched for the information on the internet.**



Conclusions:

- **Emergency contraception is a part of primary health care in local health centers and family planning clinics in many European countries (Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway).**
- **Sexual education in schools includes giving adequate information and consulting teenagers about the sexual problems including emergency contraception.**
- **In our country the sexual education is not imposed in the schools and consultations with gynecologist about using contraceptive methods confirmed only low percentage of the girls in age from 15 to 18 years.**