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# CONCEPT ANALYSIS OF VASECTOMY METHOD SELECTION DECISIONS: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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#### ABSTRACT

Indonesia faces a significant challenge with a high population growth rate that affects development quality and family welfare. One solution is to increase male participation in the family planning program through contraceptive methods such as vasectomy. However, the acceptance rate of vasectomy is still low due to various factors. This study analyzes the factors influencing vasectomy acceptance by identifying its attributes, antecedents, and consequences. This study used Walker and Avant's concept analysis approach. The literature analyzed came from various databases, such as PubMed and ProQuest, with publications from 2019 to 2024. A total of 129 articles were found, and 24 articles met the inclusion criteria for further review. The analysis identified four main attributes that influenced the decision to choose vasectomy: knowledge, wife support, economic factors, and planning for the number of children. Antecedents such as age, education, and occupation shaped the level of knowledge, which, together with wife support and economic factors, influenced the family's decision to choose vasectomy. Consequently, vasectomy is accepted as an effective, safe, and cost-effective family planning method. This analysis highlights the need for comprehensive information and support to enhance men's participation in family planning programs through vasectomy.

Keywords: family planning; knowledge; men's contraception; vasectomy; wife support

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world after India, China, and the United States. The total population is equivalent to 3.45% of the total population in the world (Worldometer, 2023). he population in Indonesia has increased every year. In 2020, there were 270.2 million people, increasing to 272.7 million in 2021, 275.7 million in 2022, and 278.7 million in 2023 (BPS Indonesia, 2023). Indonesia is currently experiencing a population growth rate that leads to low development and quality of small families. This problem can be triggered by the lack of awareness and knowledge of the community regarding reproductive rights during adolescence and childbearing age, the age of marriage, and the participation of the role of men in using contraceptives (Sari et al., 2023). The Indonesian government established the Family Planning (KB) program as one of the social programs contributing to the development of Human Resources (HR). In addition, the family planning program is also recognized as the most effective strategy in health problem intervention to improve the economy and family welfare through contraceptives (Della & Ayu, 2023).

Initially, the family planning program was only intended for women to delay pregnancy, but now the paradigm has changed along with the high cases of maternal mortality. So, the government stipulates that men are also required to participate in reproductive issues, especially the use of contraceptives (Sumiarni, 2020). Vasectomy is the cutting of the vas deferens, which is the duct that transports sperm from the epididymis in the testes to the

seminal vesicles. By cutting the vas deferens, sperm are unable to be ejaculated, and the man will become infertile once the vas deferens are clear of sperm, which takes about three months. Most men and most couples of childbearing age are still afraid of the vasectomy surgical procedure, so the use of vasectomy is still underdeveloped, and wives as supporters do not allow vasectomy because they are worried that vasectomy may lead to uncontrolled infidelity (Mourly et al., 2022).

The low selection of vasectomy contraception is influenced by age, education, occupation, knowledge, and attitudes of individuals, as well as supporting factors in the form of access to information obtained by a person and partner support (Sulistiawati & Zain, 2021). he results of research by Sulha and Pertiwi (2021) show that the most influential factors in choosing Vasectomy contraception are age, number of children, knowledge, wife support, and the role of PLKB (Sulha & Dewi, 2021). Based on the literature review, the low selection of vasectomy contraception is caused by the lack of knowledge of men of childbearing age (PUS) regarding this method. Therefore, identifying and analyzing the concept of the decision to choose the vasectomy method as an alternative contraceptive is essential to provide clarity on the application of the concept. The main objective of this concept analysis is to assess knowledge related to the acceptance of vasectomy as a family planning method by identifying the attributes, antecedents, and consequences that contribute to understanding its application in the healthcare system and providing operational definitions for future research and investigations.

#### **METHOD**

In line with the purpose of this paper, Walker and Avant's approach was adopted for the current concept analysis. Walker and Avant's (2018) concept analysis format follows a prescribed step-by-step process to clarify the decision regarding the selection decision of the vasectomy contraceptive method. The approach includes eight steps: 1) select a concept. 2) determine the purpose of the analysis. 3) identify all uses of the concept; 4) determine the defining attributes. 5) identify model cases. 6) identify additional related concepts. 7) identify antecedents and consequences, and 8) define empirical referents (Walker & Avant, 2018). The steps taken are 1) determining the concept, 2) determining the purpose of the analysis of the decision to choose the vasectomy contraceptive method, the description of the results, and the following discussion. In the analysis, data source findings were limited to nursing literature from various bibliographic databases such as PubMed, Science Direct, ProQuest, Google Scholar. Research articles reviewed from the publications of 2019 to 2024 were identified and evaluated. Additional relevant resources that complemented and enhanced the study analysis were also located and appreciated. 129 publications were identified in the initial search, and 24 articles met the inclusion criteria for review.

### **RESULT**

# Table 1. Results of Analysis

No Variables	Results of Article Analysis

1	Conceptualizing acceptance of vasectomy as a family planning method	A literature search in health and nursing was conducted using a concept analysis approach. The results showed that the concept of the vasectomy method is relevant in various disciplines, including religion, health, and nursing. Vasectomy is understood as a surgical procedure that aims to cut or block the vas deferens, thus preventing sperm from entering the ejaculatory fluid. This makes vasectomy one of the most reliable methods of male contraception.
2	Attributes in acceptance of vasectomy as a family planning method	A literature search was conducted to identify aspects that demonstrate attributes that distinguish one concept from another. The search results show that in the context of vasectomy method selection decisions, four main attributes that influence vasectomy method selection decisions are described: 1) knowledge, 2) wife support, 3) economic factors, and 4) planning for the number of children.
3	Antecedence in the acceptance of vasectomy as a family planning method	The findings based on the results of the literature study provide a conceptual framework for understanding the factors that contribute to decision-making regarding the vasectomy method, where the antecedents include several main factors, namely age, education level, type of employment, level of knowledge, support from wife, economic conditions, and number of children.
4	Consequences in Receiving Vasectomy as a Family Planning Method	The study results identified through the literature review regarding advantages and impact on effectiveness are as follows: Acceptance of this method as part of the family planning program. Vasectomy is a permanent contraceptive method that is highly effective in preventing pregnancy. The procedure has minimal risk of complications, short recovery time, and high efficacy in preventing pregnancy. In addition, vasectomy offers several advantages, including effectiveness, safety, and simplicity of the procedure. The surgery takes only 5-10 minutes using local anesthesia; the cost is relatively low, and culturally, the method is often recommended by male medical personnel. These findings were extracted from literature studies examining the effectiveness, advantages, and impact of the vasectomy method in supporting family planning programs.

#### **PEMBAHASAN**

The articles used in this concept analysis come from various scientific studies, especially those that discuss the concept of vasectomy method selection decisions from the perspective of the health and nursing fields. In this discussion, a concept analysis based on the concept of Walker and Avant (2018) will be described as follows:

#### **Identify all uses of the concept**

Literature searches from the fields of health and nursing were conducted to determine the characteristics of concept use (Walker & Avant, 2018). Based on the results of the literature search, the concept of the vasectomy method is used in religious science, health, and nursing. Vasectomy is a surgical procedure that effectively cuts or blocks the vas deferens to prevent sperm from entering the ejaculatory fluid, making it a highly reliable method of male contraception. The procedure is known for its simplicity, minimally invasive nature, and high success rate, with studies showing a failure rate of less than 1% (Ayele et al., 2020; Hoover et al., 2023). Vasectomy is a medical procedure to close the sperm ducts so that the seminal fluid does not contain sperm and prevents pregnancy. The procedure is often chosen as a permanent contraceptive, although some studies have shown a potential increased risk of prostate cancer in men who underwent the procedure more than 22 years ago (Audia Hajera Bachtiar et al., 2024). In addition, there are also reports that vasectomy can cause sexual dysfunction, including decreased orgasm frequency and libido (Andini Salsabila Puteri et al., 2024).

# **Determining Attributes**

Defining attributes is a core part of the concept analysis process. This is because, at this stage, the characteristics or attributes that make up the concept are defined. The attributes that have been identified will distinguish one concept from another (Walker & Avant, 2018). Describing these attributes is the same as describing the factors influencing the decision to

choose the vasectomy method. The four attributes that have been identified for the concept of vasectomy method choice decision are 1) knowledge, 2) wife support, 3) economic factors, and 4) Planning for the number of children.

### Knowledge

Knowledge is defined as the result of perception or what individuals know about an object through their senses to influence their actions (Silvia Arisanthi Pratiwi & Arifia Nurriqli, 2023). A study found that husbands who have a high level of knowledge are more likely to be willing to accept vasectomy family planning. This is supported by another study that confirms that vasectomy acceptors generally have an attitude of understanding and applying it in practice (Degu Ayele et al., 2021). Knowledge as a basis for decision making consists of six levels: knowing, understanding, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation, which are expected to change a person's perspective after going through this process (Minannisa, 2020). Derived from the word know, which means knowing all aspects related to the use of contraceptives, ranging from understanding, benefits, how to work, side effects, types of male contraceptives, and the purpose of their participation in becoming family planning acceptors. With the level of knowledge possessed by men, it makes it easier for them to determine the decision to use vasectomy (Stormont & Deibert, 2024).

## Wife Support

Support is defined as the presence of certain people who personally provide advice, motivation, and direction and show a way out when individuals experience problems and when experiencing obstacles in carrying out activities in a directed manner to achieve goals (Murzella, 2020; Poceratu, 2021). Family support is a form of interpersonal relationship that includes attitudes, actions, and acceptance of family members so that family members feel that someone is paying attention (Firmansyah et al., 2017; Putri et al., 2023). Wives' support for their husbands as contraceptive acceptors, especially vasectomy, is significant in increasing men's participation in family planning programs. Research shows that emotional and practical support from wives can increase husbands' interest in using this contraceptive method (Amanati et al., 2021; Choiriyah et al., 2020). In addition, good communication between spouses in choosing the appropriate contraceptive method also plays a vital role in reaching mutual agreement (Fidorova et al., 2024; Ihsani et al., 2019). Wives not only help in the process of using vasectomy but also play a role in seeking medical assistance if side effects or infections occur (Amanati et al., 2021; Maydianasari et al., 2023). Wife support also includes income difficulties and the desire to pay for children's education (Halimah et al., 2020). Respondents in one study chose vasectomy for a safe and comfortable sexual life with their wives. This was because their spouses were not compatible with other contraceptives, and the number of children was already quite large. The use of condoms is also uncomfortable for wives during sexual intercourse (Amanati et al., 2021).

#### **Economic Factors**

Health economics is related to choosing one way or several ways to achieve goals, as well as health planning in choosing one alternative. In line with the application of this concept, the decision to choose the vasectomy method is one of the alternatives, especially for community groups with unstable economic conditions (Astiena, 2021). Economic factors influence the decision to choose the vasectomy method. According to existing research, families with poor economic status are more likely to choose vasectomy. The main reason is that they do not want to have more children because the economic burden of the existing number of children is too heavy (Halimah et al., 2020). Another response from acceptors who chose the vasectomy method in the family planning program was that they wanted to improve their economic

situation. Becoming a vasectomy acceptor can save long-term expenses from an increasingly complex economy in meeting the needs and rights of children (Aulia et al., 2024).

## **Child Count Planning**

A family's planning in determining the number of children to have will be closely related to the value of children. Children's value is how parents view children based on specific considerations in having children that are influenced by demographic, social, and economic conditions (Nandini et al., 2022). According to BKKBN (2017), the number of children is ideal if the children have ≤ 2 children and not ideal if the children have > 2 children. As a result of the number of births that continue to occur, it will increase the number of family dependents, both in fulfilling food, clothing, education, health, and shelter as a place to live, which, if this cannot be fulfilled, it will become a severe problem for the survival of a family's life (Alayubi et al., 2019). The decision to use the vasectomy method affects the number of children. Families who have unplanned and excess children will have a greater chance of participating in vasectomy (Halimah et al., 2020).

#### **Creating a Case Model**

Modeling a case attempts to explain each characteristic of the concept in the modeled case. Cases can come from realities that occur in the environment, literature, or the results of the author's construction. Mr. Y (44 years old) is a private worker. As the head of the family, Mr. Y has five children, and his wife (38 years old) is a housewife. Mr. Y knows that vasectomy is a sterile contraceptive for men that aims not to have more children. Mr. Y has been using vasectomy for 3 years. Initially, information about the vasectomy method was obtained from socialization by PLKB officers and midwives. In making decisions to use vasectomy based on the results of deliberation and consensus from his wife, Mr. Y said that initially, the decision to use vasectomy was based on the results of deliberation and consensus from his wife. Y said that initially, the decision to use vasectomy was suggested by his wife. Mr. Y's wife. Mr. Y's wife supported the decision-making of the role of midwives and PLKB, who visited the acceptors at home to ensure the readiness of the acceptor to use vasectomy. Mr. Y said that using the vasectomy method can save family finances and maintain his wife's health.

Mr. Y's income as a private worker is acknowledged as being able to meet his daily needs. Mr. Y's income as a private worker is admitted to be able to meet his daily needs with sober and mediocre because many of Mr. Y's children are accustomed to the use of vasectomy. Mr. Y is used to the use of vasectomy. Mr. Y received much information about the impact caused by the use of vasectomy, but there were no complaints felt during use. Mr. Y felt safe and did not care because of no health problems. Regardless of the wife's role in providing support to Mr. Y, the reason for the economy and difficult income, the reason for many children is also a consideration because of the cost of children's schooling and daily life that decided Mr. Y to use the vasectomy method. Y to do vasectomy method. This case model study fully demonstrates the four attributes described: "knowledge, wife support, economic factors, and planning the number of children".

## Making the case of Borderlina and the contrary

Making borderline cases aims to explain examples where some characteristics of the concept are not present. A contrary case does not describe the concept in question because it lacks any characteristics.

### **Case of Borderline**

Mr. H (50 years old) is a businessman. As the head of the family, Mr. H has one child, and his wife (39 years old) is a civil servant. Mr. H knows that vasectomy is a sterile contraceptive for men that aims not to have offspring. Mr. H had a vasectomy six months ago; initially,

information about the vasectomy method was obtained from his family members, who were obstetricians. Mr. H decided to have a vasectomy based on his wife's support. As a businessman, the needs of life, such as clothing, food, and shelter, are relatively stable and able to finance the lives of his children. Initially, Mr. H and his wife were hesitant about the decision because they only had one child; however, with the reason that Mr. H's wife has a history of infectious diseases (HIV). Mr. H has a history of infectious disease (HIV). Mr. H made the decision not to have more children by using the vasectomy method because it prevents Mr. H's offspring from experiencing the same disease. H has the same disease as his wife. In addition, the age factor is far adrift between Mr. H and his wife. He and his wife also became the reason for choosing the vasectomy method. Based on the above cases, only two attributes of the vasectomy method selection decision: "wife's knowledge and support", are realized in the case model. And the attributes "economic factors and number of children" are not included in the case model.

### **Case of Contrary**

Mr. A (30 years old) is a construction worker. As the head of the family, Mr. A has six children, and his wife (26 years old) is a housewife. Mr. A says the vasectomy method is a disfiguring procedure that can damage his vital organs. Mr. A said that several times, the PLKB conducted socialization on the vasectomy method, but Mr. A did not attend the activities. A did not attend the event. Mr. A's wife also did not attend the socialization because she was busy taking care of her child at home, so she did not know about vasectomy contraceptive information. Mr. A's wife. Mr. A's wife had used injectable family planning for 3 months, but because the distance from the house to the Primary Healthcare was far and she was busy taking care of children, she no longer used family planning. Mr. A's income as a construction worker A's income as a construction worker is admittedly insufficient to meet the needs of life. Mr. A believes that "many children, many fortunes," so even though life is mediocre and sober, Mr. A is still grateful. A remains grateful. This last case reflects the absence of the decision attributes of choosing a vasectomy method: knowledge, wife support, economic factors, and the number of children "is not fulfilled in the case".

# **Identifying Antecedence and Consequences Antecedence**

Antecedents are pre-existing factors that influence the attributes that characterize the concept (Walker & Avant, 2019). In the analysis of this study, the antecedents in the decision to choose the vasectomy method include age, education, occupation, knowledge, wife's support, economic factors, and number of children.

## Age

The increase in a person's age also affects their capacity to capture and think, as well as the increase in individual knowledge, so they tend to be more careful in choosing and taking actions related to their health (M. Nur et al., 2023). The age factor influences the participation of men (husbands) in the family planning program. Men over 35 years of age, because at that time, PUS already feel that they have enough children, so they do not want to add more children and tend to be more stable in considering the type of contraception to be used (Sulistiawati & Zain, 2021).

#### **Education**

Education can shape the level of knowledge and attitudes of PUS because the higher the level of education, the higher their knowledge and ability to receive or understand information obtained regarding contraceptives. In addition, there is a desire to use contraception to limit

the number of children (Saragih, 2023). Fahlevie's research (2022) states that there is a significant relationship between education level and contraceptive selection, where acceptors with higher education have a 7.1 times chance of using long-term contraception compared to low education levels (Fahlevie et al., 2022).

#### Jobs

Income is the main way for families to fulfill their daily needs. The amount of income earned depends on the type of work done and is related to the family's economic level (Rahmawati et al., 2021). Based on research, there is a relationship between occupation and the selection of MOP contraceptives with an OR value of 4.716, meaning that men (husbands) with formal employment have a 4.7 times greater chance of choosing MOP contraception (Fidorova et al., 2024).

# Knowledge

To increase understanding of the uses and benefits of male contraception, it is necessary to increase individual knowledge. This also makes individuals rationally assess the types of male contraceptives and is not easily influenced by the negative things they get (Maharani et al., 2023) Good information will increase men's knowledge and participation in the family planning program. (Amanati et al., 2021). Well-available information will increase men's knowledge and participation in the family planning program (Amanati et al., 2021). Men who get clear and complete information can easily make decisions to use contraception(Annisa et al., 2020).

## Wife Support

In addition to being a partner in the household, the wife's role is essential to support the husband's participation in the family planning program (Sulistiawati & Zain, 2021). This support is a form of approval for the decisions made by the husband and is based on the knowledge that the wife has regarding the family planning program (Amanati et al.,2021). Based on research by Muhammad et al. (2020), where the decision to use MOP contraception is based on mutual agreement or deliberation between husband and wife (Muhammad et al., 2020).

#### **Economic Factors**

The low economic status of the family affects the ability of PUS to buy and use contraceptives because of the low income earned due to the type of work and the number of children they have (Anggrainy et al., 2022). Therefore, to meet family planning needs, families will adjust the costs to be incurred with their level of ability (Sumiarni, 2020). An effort to increase the participation of men (husbands) in the selection of vasectomy contraception can be made by providing free vasectomy method services and providing incentives to families who cannot afford it so that the participation of men (husbands) can be significantly increased (Sulistiawati & Zain, 2021).

### Number of children

The choice of contraceptive type is based on the number of children, where couples who have a small number of children tend to use contraceptives with low effectiveness, compared to couples with a large number of children who tend to use types of contraceptives with high effectiveness (Sulistiawati & Zain, 2021). In line with the results of research by Halimah et al. (2020), the number of children affects the decision to use male contraception. This is related to the support of wives so that husbands are willing to become family planning acceptors for various reasons, such as economic difficulties, the number of children they have, and the dependents of children's education costs that must be incurred (Halimah et al., 2020).

## Consequences

Consequences are the outcome of the concept. One consequence of choosing the vasectomy method is accepting it as a family planning method.

## Vasectomy as a family planning method

The vasectomy method of contraception is permanent and effective in preventing pregnancy. Vasectomy is a surgical method by cutting the vas deferens so that during ejaculation, there are no spermatozoa in the sperm fluid. Vasectomy is a very effective procedure to prevent pregnancy because it is permanent in that 99% of men who follow this birth control will not fertilize. Using this procedure has a relatively small risk of complications, does not take much time to recover, and is very effective in preventing pregnancy. The vasectomy contraceptive method has the advantages of being more effective, safe, and simple, and the surgery process only takes 5-10 minutes using local anesthesia, low cost, and culturally highly recommended by male medical personnel. This method of contraception requires a relatively short hospital stay. However, the decision to have a vasectomy should be a mutual agreement with your partner. This is because surgery to reopen the sperm ducts is not always successful (Teriviantina & Simanjuntak, 2021).

## **Determining Empirical Referents**

The final step of the concept analysis method is Empirical referents, which are actual data whose presence indicates the occurrence of the concept and can be used to recognize the characteristics or attributes that make up the concept (Walker & Avant, 2018). Therefore, empirical referents relate directly to a concept's defining attributes rather than the whole concept. Some of the reported studies include observations and interviews. Semi-structured questionnaires were used to collect data using interview techniques (Dejene Wolde et al., 2023; Nesro et al., 2020; Umeobieri et al., 2023). The questionnaire consisted of 4 sections with a total of 46 items. Section I was designed to collect customs on socio-demographic characteristics, Section II was designed to collect questions on reproductive health, Section III was designed to collect information on knowledge about vascularectomy, and scores of 1 and 0 were given for each correct and incorrect answer. Section IV was designed to collect information on attitudes towards Vasectomy using the Likert category method of "agree, neutral, disagree". (Dejene Wolde et al., 2023). Based on the results and discussion, the overall variable relationship model in choosing a vasectomy method is as follows;

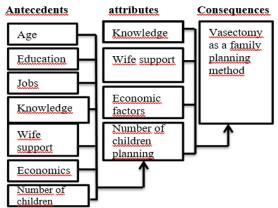


Figure 1: Model of the Relationship between Variables in Determining the Vasectomy

Method

Figure 1. shows the relationship model between variables explaining the factors that influence the decision to use vasectomy as a family planning method. Antecedents such as age, education, and occupation play a role in shaping a person's level of knowledge. In addition, knowledge, wife support, economy, and number of children influence each other as

supporting factors. One's knowledge and one's wife's support influence economic factors. These economic factors and planning for the number of children are interrelated in determining family readiness and decisions. Ultimately, all of these attribute factors - knowledge, wife support, economic factors, and planning for the number of children - lead to the consequent decision to use vasectomy as a family planning method. The relationship between these variables shows a complex interrelationship where social, economic, and family factors play an essential role in decision-making.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, this analysis confirms that men's participation in the family planning program through vasectomy can be increased by providing comprehensive information, support from various parties, and interventions such as health counseling. The decision to choose a vasectomy method is influenced by four main attributes, namely knowledge, wife support, economic factors, and number of children, which healthcare providers support to ensure the understanding and acceptance of couples of childbearing age towards this method. Recommendation to increase men's participation in vasectomy, an integrated approach through comprehensive education, health counseling by professionals, and spousal and community support is needed. Healthcare providers should ensure equitable access to information to overcome social, economic, and knowledge barriers that influence the decision to use vasectomy.

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