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**Original article:   
A Comparative study on unmet need for contraception among married women of reproductive age in urban slums of Guwahati and rural area of Rani Block, Kamrup, Assam**

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**Abstract**

Background:Unmet need for family planning signifies the gap between the reproductive intention of couples and their actual contraceptive behavior. The National Family Health Surveys carried out in India in 1992-93, 1998-99 and 2005-2006 have revealed that for a sizeable proportion of the population in the reproductive age group, the need for contraceptive services are not met with despite the existence of a National Policy on family planning since 1983. This study was carried out to assess the extent of unmet met for family planning. among married women of reproductive age group of eligible couples in urban slums of Guwahati city and rural area of Rani Development Block and identify the various factors effecting it.

Study design - Community based cross sectional study.

Setting: Urban slums of Guwahati city and rural area of Rani Development Block.

Participants: 130 married women in the age group of 15-45 years, each in urban slums of Guwahati and the rural area of Rani Development Block respectively.

Exclusion criteria: Unmarried women, separated/divorced women, widow, pregnant due to contraceptive failure.

Study variables: Age, education, occupation, religion, parity.

Statistical Analysis: Chi square test.

Results: The extent of unmet among married women of reproductive age group (15-45 years) in urban slums was 79.3% whereas in rural area, it was 24.7%.

**Key words:** Unmet need; family planning, Urban slums of Guwahati, and rural area of Rani Development Block.