

SP76.2

QUINACRINE STERILISATION: A COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Quinacrine sterilisation (QS) was added as an option for women in 1990 as part of a broad maternal and child health programme of the Mother and Child Welfare Association (MCWA), an NGO in Faisalabad, Pakistan.' An intensive family planning community education effort was made in 1990, resulting in increased contraceptive prevalence of all methods. QS, a nonsurgical method, was accepted by 2100 women in 1990, compared to 402 accepting tubectomy. QS was provided by our own 20 MCH Centres, the Municipal Corporation Family Health Centres, private medical practitioners, hospitals and traditional birth attendants. Community surveys in the area of our main MCH Centre showed an increase in contraceptive prevalence from 12.1% in 1989 to 41.7% in 1990, of which 18.1% was female sterilisation. QS made a greater contribution to contraceptive prevalence than any other method. We have now completed over 10,000 QS procedures using a single insertion of seven quinacrine pellets of 36 mg each. There have been no case fatality or life threatening complications, and efficacy compares well to other contraceptive methods.
