EXPERIENCES WITH CONTRACEPTIVE PROVISION IN ADOLESCENTS
CHATSWORTH CRS

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• Chatsworth site has not had experience in provision of contraception to adolescents.

• Information about provision of contraception to adolescents was obtained from the local family planning clinic.
BARRIERS CONTRACEPTIVE USE

• **Culture** - sex is a not topic of discussion in families.

• **Religion** – sex before marriage is not encouraged.

• **Staff attitude** – judgemental attitude towards adolescents using contraceptives.

• **Time** – Long waiting time to receive contraceptives from clinics.

• **Bleeding** - Some women who had Implants inserted requested removal due to bleeding.
MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS

- Use of contraceptives
  - encourages sexual activity
  - Implies that you are promiscuous
  - Discourages condom use
- Using IUCD is unsafe and it moves around inside the body.
- Contraception users gain weight.

(Contraception use myths and misconceptions, are not specific to adolescents but are general to all contraceptives users)
CONTRACEPTIVE ADHERENCE

- Adherence in adolescents is poor due to:
  - Myths, misconceptions and barriers
  - Long waiting time at the clinics when collecting contraception
  - Stigma attached to use of contraception by adolescents: labelled by society as sluts or promiscuous girls
MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT IUCD AND IMPLANT PROVISION IN ADOLESCENTS

• The IUCD might be lost inside one’s body.

• The IUCD makes it difficult for one to enjoy sex.

• The IUCD strings can hurt my sexual partner.

Challenge: Some women who had Implants inserted requested removal due to bleeding
CONTRACEPTIVE PROVISION IN ADOLESCENTS: CLINICAL GUIDANCE

• Obtain participant’s medical history.
• Contraception counseling must be done.
• Effects and side effects of different types of contraception is explained.
• Advice on the use of dual protection within the initial 14 days of use of contraception.
• Importance of contraception adherence.
• Allowing the participant to choose the best contraceptive method for herself.
SOP FOR CONTRACEPTION PROVISION IN ADOLESCENTS

• The SOP for contraception will be adapted to address the specific needs of the adolescents.
LAW CONCERNING PROVISION OF CONTRACEPTIVES TO ADOLESCENTS

Children’s Act, No. 38 of 2005 (Amendment Children’s Act No. 41 of 2007)

• No person may refuse to sell or provide condoms to children over age of 12.

• Contraceptives may be provided to a child on request without parent consent if:
  a) child is 12 years or older,
  b) proper medical advice is given,
  c) child’s medical history is considered and proper examination is carried out.

• A child who obtains condoms or contraceptives in terms of this Act is entitled to confidentiality.
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