



# Creating a Dialogue and a Call to Action for LARCs and Youth

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*“When we talk about ‘full access and full choice’ in regards to adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights, we have to recognize that currently, nothing could be further than the truth. By not giving adolescents and youth sound, unbiased information and access to long-acting reversible contraception that can meet their needs, we are simply letting youth down.”*

–International Youth Alliance for Family Planning

*“Age alone does not constitute a medical reason for denying any method to adolescents.”*

– Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, World Health Organization

*“ FIGO and ICM fully support action to reduce provider bias that may prevent LARCs from being offered in a non-discriminatory manner to young people. We encourage obstetricians, gynecologists and midwives affiliated with FIGO and ICM through their national associations to work to promote strategies and remove barriers in their countries to the use of LARCs to meet young people’s reproductive health needs”*

- FIGO & ICM

# Expanding Contraceptive Choice for Adolescents and Youth to Include Long-Acting Reversible Contraception

Photo by Julia Kahrl

Support the Global Consensus Statement



47 endorsing organizations  
266 Individual supporters  
and counting....





How do we communicate the safety and effectiveness and combat current myths and misconceptions?

How do we support providers in overcoming their own biases, and becoming champions for LARC use among young people?

How do we increase LARC access for youth while ensuring informed choice?

How do we link FP and MHM to support shared goals?

What approaches – and who in the community – can help shape positive norms about LARC use among young people?

How do we ensure LARCs are affordable for youth?

How do we ensure LARCs are seen as a youth-friendly option?

How do we create communication activities that reach youth, parents, partners, and other community members?



*For Youth, A Health Option with LARCs*  
May 27, 2015 @ FHI 360 Conference Center

Choice

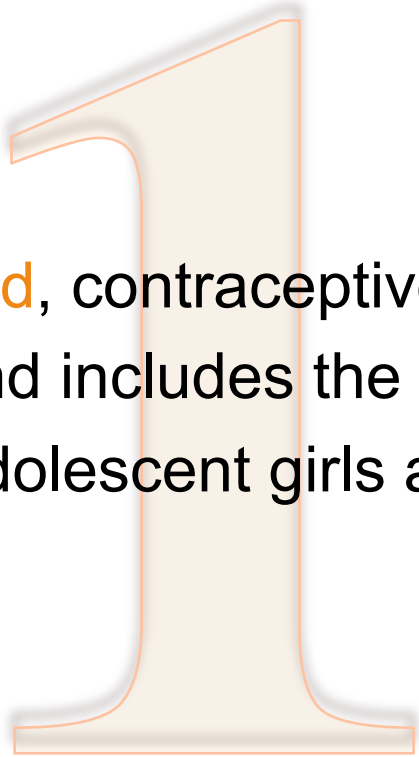

Service  
Provision

# Recommendations

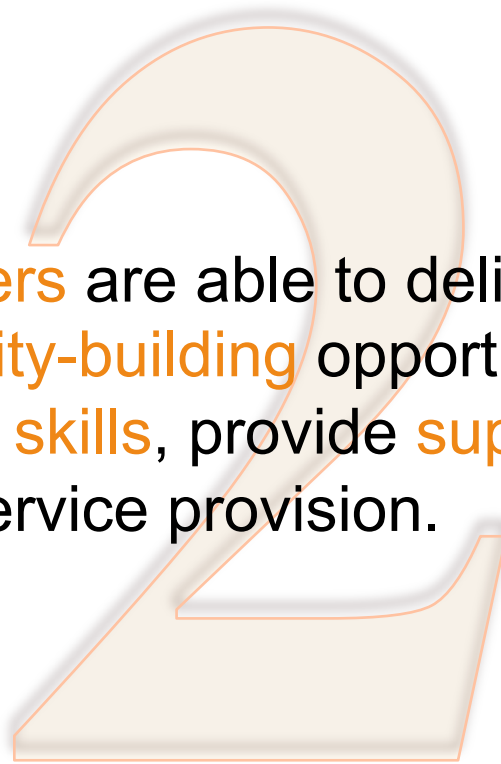

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Access

BCC

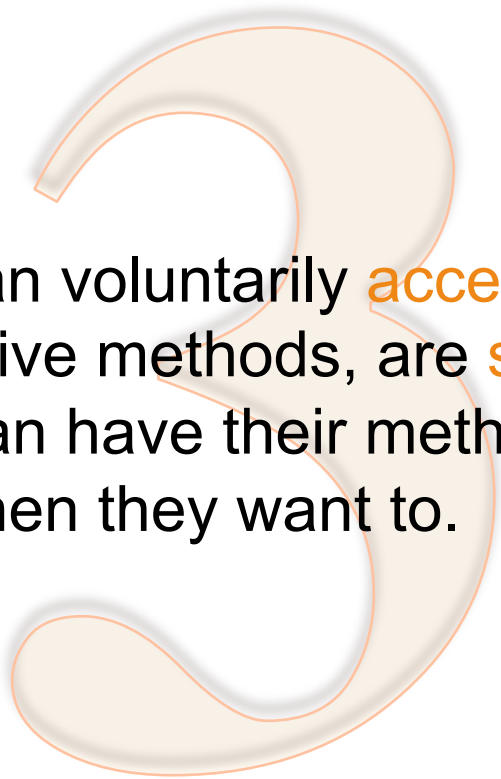



Provide **client-centered**, contraceptive counseling that highlights **effectiveness** and includes the **benefits** of LARCs, to expand **choice** for **all** adolescent girls and young women.

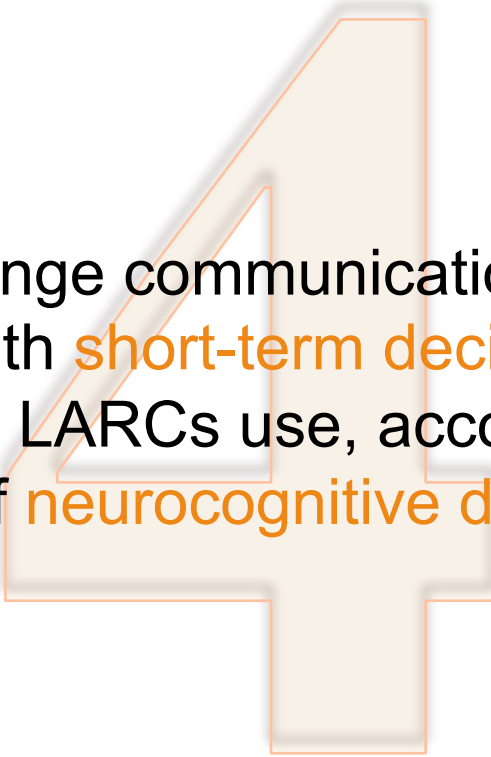



Ensure **health providers** are able to deliver **youth-friendly** services through **capacity-building** opportunities that address **provider bias**, improve **skills**, provide **support** and **integrate** service provision.





Ensure young people can voluntarily **access** LARCs as part of a range of contraceptive methods, are **satisfied** with their method choice, and can have their method **removed** if and when they want to.



Develop behavior change communication messages that balance **life planning** with **short-term decision-making**, while **normalizing** voluntary LARCs use, accounting for young people's stage of **neurocognitive development**.



*The beginning of a global conversation...*





The Choice is Hers



Stuck Between a LARC and a Hard Place



If These Providers Could Talk



Transforming Policies & Communities

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