

ACOG LARC Program Update

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the **LARC**
program
Long-Acting Reversible Contraception

The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS



- ▶ More than 59,000 members
 - ▶ over 34,000 practicing ob-gyns and 5,000 residents
- ▶ Over 90% of American board-certified ob-gyns are members
- ▶ Members include generalists and subspecialists
- ▶ Two companion organizations: Congress + College
 - ▶ Congress
 - ▶ Advocacy on behalf of members
 - ▶ Lobbying & political activities
 - ▶ College
 - ▶ Educational activities
 - ▶ Clinical guidance & publications

ACOG 101

- ▶ Established in 2008
- ▶ Goals:
 - ▶ Reduce unintended pregnancy
 - ▶ Increase access to LARC methods
 - ▶ Provide information and support to ACOG members
 - ▶ Support efforts to improve contraceptive care and efficiency
 - ▶ Strengthen relationships with family planning colleagues and organizations

ACOG LARC PROGRAM

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Long Acting Reversible Contraception Program

for updates and [sign up](#) for our LARC Program e-newsletter to receive regular updates.

About the Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Program

The LARC Program works to reduce unintended pregnancy in the U.S by providing information and guidance on the most effective reversible contraceptive methods, the contraceptive implant and intrauterine devices (IUDs), and by increasing access to the full range of contraceptive methods. [Learn more](#)

LARC Clinical Resources

Long Acting Reversible Contraception Program

- LARC Program Activities
- LARC Clinical Resources
- LARC Webinars
- LARC Clinician Education and Training
- Coding and Reimbursement for LARC
- LARC Practice Resources
- Advocating for Access to LARC
- Patient Resources
- LARC Program E-Newsletter

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All open access on our website: www.acog.org/goto/larc

▶ Clinical

- ▶ Practice Bulletin #121: Long-Acting Reversible Contraception: Implants and Intrauterine Devices
 - ▶ Addresses postpartum LARC
- ▶ Committee Opinion #450: Increasing Use of Contraceptive Implants and Intrauterine Devices To Reduce Unintended Pregnancy
- ▶ Committee Opinion #539: Adolescents and Long-Acting Reversible Contraception: Implants and Intrauterine Devices

RESOURCES



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

COMMITTEE OPINION

Number 615 • January 2015

Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women

This information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be followed.

Access to Contraception

ABSTRACT: Nearly all U.S. women who have ever had sexual intercourse have used some form of contraception at some point during their reproductive lives. However, multiple barriers prevent women from obtaining contraceptives or using them effectively and consistently. All women should have unhindered and affordable access to all U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptives. This Committee Opinion reviews barriers to contraceptive access and offers strategies to improve access.

Recommendations

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (the College) supports access to comprehensive contraceptive care and contraceptive methods as an integral component of women's health care and is committed to encouraging and upholding policies and actions that ensure the availability of affordable and accessible contraceptive care and contraceptive methods. In order to accomplish this goal, the College recommends and supports the following:

- Full implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirement that new and revised private health insurance plans cover all U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved contraceptives without cost sharing, including nonequivalent options from within one method category (eg, levonorgestrel as well as copper intrauterine devices [IUDs])
- Easily accessible alternative contraceptive coverage for women who receive health insurance through employers and plans exempted from the contraceptive coverage requirement
- Medicaid expansion in all states, an action critical to the ability of low-income women to obtain improved access to contraceptives
- Adequate funding for the federal Title X family planning program and Medicaid family planning services to ensure contraceptive availability for low-income women, including the use of public funds for contraceptive provision at the time of abortion
- Sufficient compensation for contraceptive services by public and private payers to ensure access, including appropriate payment for clinician services and acquisition-cost reimbursement for supplies
- Age-appropriate, medically accurate, comprehensive sexuality education that includes information on abstinence as well as the full range of FDA-approved contraceptives
- Confidential, comprehensive contraceptive care and access to contraceptive methods for adolescents without mandated parental notification or consent, including confidentiality in billing and insurance claims processing procedures
- The right of women to receive prescribed contraceptives or an immediate informed referral from all pharmacies
- Prompt referral to an appropriate health care provider by clinicians, religiously affiliated hospitals, and others who do not provide contraceptive services
- Evaluation of effects on contraceptive access in a community before hospital mergers and affiliations are considered or approved
- Efforts to increase access to emergency contraception, including removal of the age restriction for all levonorgestrel emergency contraception products, to create true over-the-counter access
- Over-the-counter access to oral contraceptives with accompanying full insurance coverage or cost supports

Committee Opinion #615: Access to Contraception

- ▶ Payment & Reimbursement
 - ▶ LARC Quick Coding Guide
 - ▶ LARC Reimbursement Guide: <http://larcprogram.ucsf.edu/>
- ▶ Webinars
 - ▶ Free, accredited, available on-demand
 - ▶ [Immediate Postpartum Initiation of LARC](#)
- ▶ [ACOG LARC Program e-newsletter](#)

RESOURCES

- ▶ Developing additional online resources addressing immediate postpartum LARC
 - ▶ What additional resources would be helpful?
- ▶ Considering how to best deliver postpartum contraception training
 - ▶ Clinical and systems support
 - ▶ What are the training needs in your state?
- ▶ Can facilitate connections to ACOG Section leadership or other ACOG Fellows advocating on this issue

MOVING FORWARD

Questions & Suggestions

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