

BARRIERS AND ENABLERS TO IUD USE: WHO CAN AFFORD A MIRENA?

Catriona Murray¹

¹ Locality Medical Adviser, Family Planning New Zealand

Who can afford a Mirena for contraception?

In New Zealand, Mirena® is subsidised for the treatment of heavy menstrual bleeding but not for contraception. The device costs \$340 at Family Planning. This Wellington-based study looked at whether there is a difference in the socioeconomic status and ethnicity of people who chose a levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system for contraception compared with those opting for a subsidised long-acting contraceptive (copper intrauterine device or Jadelle® implant) or who qualified for a Special Authority Mirena® (funded by Pharmac, as treatment for heavy menstrual bleeding). The results of this study will be presented highlighting the barriers to accessing a Mirena faced by some people in New Zealand.