

# IMPLEMENTING A LEARNING FRAMEWORK TO GUIDE EVIDENCE-BASED AND PATIENT-CENTRED CONTRACEPTIVE CONSULTATIONS

## Authors:

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## Background/Purpose:

A needs assessment of 119 ASHM course participants revealed knowledge gaps within the counselling and provision of contraceptive options, particularly Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARCs), contributing to low uptake of LARC in Australia. This project aimed to develop a learning framework for primary care providers to increase their confidence and skills to conduct an evidence-based, patient-centred contraceptive consultation.

## Approach:

The learning framework aimed to support clinicians to develop and maintain their consultation skills and confidence through a multi-modal learning hub. ASHM partnered with Iris Education to develop a decision-making tool that supports clinicians in their contraceptive consultations. A national online course expanded on the principles of the tool, addressing additional knowledge gaps identified by survey respondents, including contraception myth-busting; referral pathways for insertion; and clinical auditing. In response to positive feedback and a large number of users of the tool and course, ASHM is developing a roleplay video that demonstrates a best practice contraceptive consultation in a primary care setting.

## Outcomes/Impact:

In 2023, 3,200 users viewed the Decision Making in Contraception tool. The Contraception Essentials in Primary Care live facilitated course was delivered nationally to 288 participants in 2023, with 100% (n=78) of post-course survey respondents reporting that their learning outcomes were met. Participants reported a 53% increase in their ability to structure an evidence-based, patient-centred contraceptive consultation. An additional survey three months after the course revealed that LARCs were the most common contraceptive option that respondents recommended to patients in the last 30 days (n=17). Data on the roleplay video will be available from June 2024.

## Innovation and Significance:

The learning framework supports clinicians to develop their contraceptive consultation skills, which addresses gaps in existing training on contraception that primarily focuses on practical skills such as insertion. The needs assessment survey ensured that the learning framework addressed learner-identified needs, supporting clinicians to develop their contraceptive consultation skills and confidence. The comprehensive multi-modal approach differs from existing training and caters to different learning needs and contexts, offering introductory training and accessible resources that clinicians can continue to refer to.

## Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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