



World Health
Organization



Covid-19 and Implications for Family Planning Services

April 7th, 2020

Nandita Thatte, WHO/IBP, Moderator

Nandita leads the WHO/IBP Secretariat based in Geneva. Her current portfolio includes institutionalizing the role of WHO/IBP to support dissemination, implementation, and scale up of WHO guidelines and strengthening the linkages between IBP partners and WHO researchers to inform new areas for implementation research. Prior to joining WHO, Nandita was a Technical Advisor in the Office of Population and Reproductive Health at USAID where she supported programs in West Africa, Haiti and Mozambique. She has a DrPH in Prevention and Community Health from the George Washington University School of Public Health.



World Health
Organization



Opening Remarks and Instructions

Nandita Thatte, WHO/IBP



Today's Agenda

- **James Kiarie** WHO current and future research
- **Ben Light** UNFPA overview on the impact on commodities at country level
- **Tomoko Fukuda** IPPF East & South East Asia and Oceania Region: Response and lessons learned
- **Yolande Hyjazi** Guinea experience on Ebola outbreak
- **Ricky Lu** Questions and Comments



Before we begin



The webinar will be recorded. Available here:
<https://gotostage.com/channel/965084607443925509>



Submit your questions anytime!



Download the handouts



James Kiarie, WHO, Presenter

Dr James N. Kiarie is Head of the Contraception and Fertility Care Unit, WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research. Dr Kiarie qualified as an obstetrician gynecologist in 1992. Prior to joining WHO in December 2014, he was an Associate Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Nairobi, and a Consultant Obstetrician Gynecologist in Kenyatta National Hospital. Dr Kiarie has over 20 years of experience in teaching, clinical practice and research in the field of reproductive health, focusing on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and family planning.



WHO Current and Future Research

James Kiarie, WHO

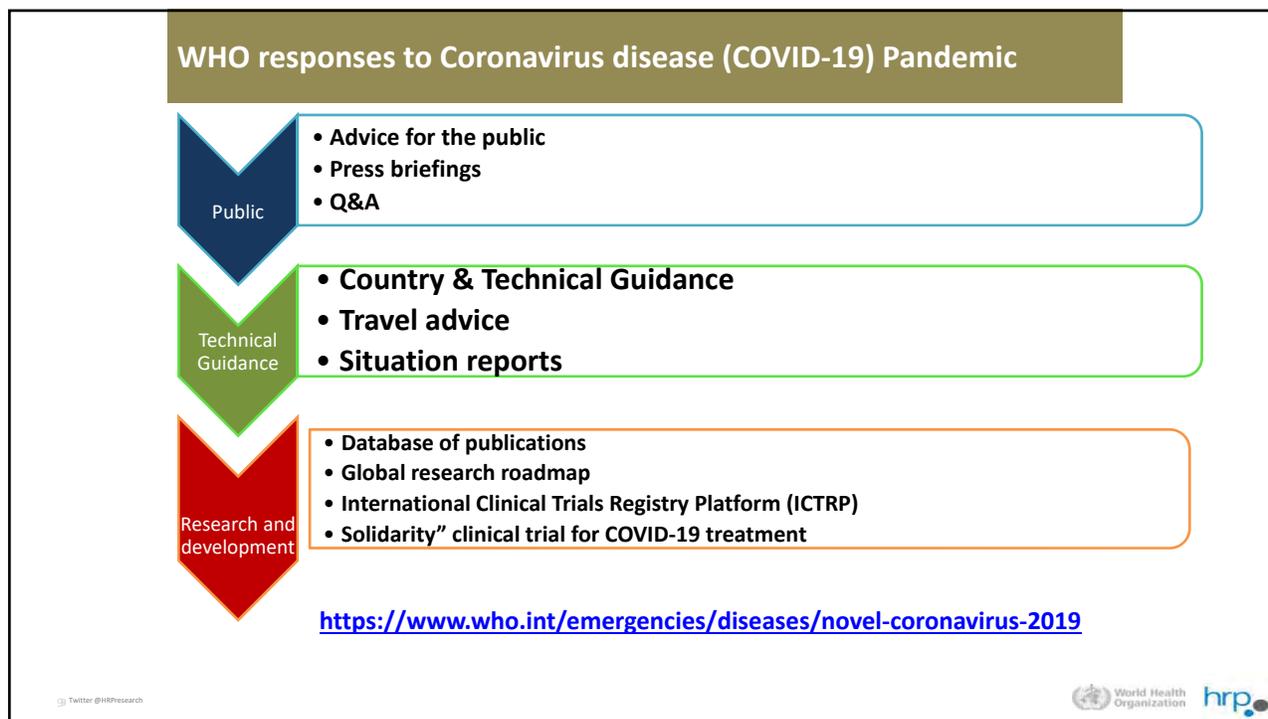


Covid-19 and Implications for Family Planning Services

WHO Leadership, Guidance, Technical support and Research

James Kiarie
Head, Contraception and Fertility Care Unit
Department of Sexual Reproductive Health and Research





Key Considerations in WHO Response to COVID-19

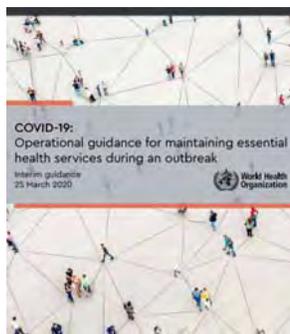
support all countries to prepare for and respond to COVID-19

1. Country-level coordination, planning, and monitoring
2. Risk communication and community engagement
3. Surveillance, rapid response teams, and case investigation
4. Infection prevention and control
5. Operational support and logistics

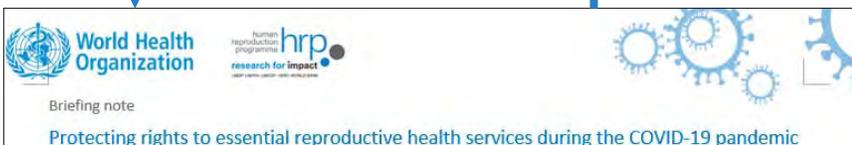
<https://who.sprinklr.com/>

Twitter @HRResearch World Health Organization hrp

Guidance relevant to contraception



Contraception/ family planning, and COVID-19:
Questions and Answers



110 Twitter @HRResearch

World Health Organization hrp



Balancing the demands of responding directly to COVID-19 while maintaining essential health service delivery and mitigating the risk of system collapse

Identify context-relevant essential services

- List of essential services.
- List services that can be delayed or relocated.
- Roadmap for progressive phased reduction of service

Optimize service delivery settings and platforms

- Map health facilities
- Maintain supply chains
- Establish outreach mechanisms

Re-distribute health workforce capacity

- Map health worker requirements
- Maximize occupational health and staff safety measures

110 Twitter @HRResearch

World Health Organization hrp



Briefing note

Protecting rights to essential reproductive health services during the COVID-19 pandemic



Access to contraceptive services, including emergency contraception, are essential and time-sensitive. There are several WHO recommended options available to optimize service delivery settings and platforms including task-sharing, Digital health interventions and Self-care. To sustain services its critical to maintain availability of essential medications, equipment, and supplies.

Twitter @HRPresearch



Contraception/ family planning, and COVID-19: Questions and Answers

Is contraception/ family planning safe to use?

I want to avoid getting pregnant. What can I do?

I can't access my contraceptive method of choice. What do you advise?

What is the best contraceptive method to use?

I want to change my contraceptive method – is this possible?

I want to remove or replace my implant or IUD – can I do this?

Why is providing contraception/ family planning, important?

As a policy maker what can I do to ensure contraception/ FP access?

As a programme manager how can I help people access services?

Twitter @HRPresearch





Research

- Assessment of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Sexual Reproductive Health Systems using a social science approach
 - Facility assessment and follow-up evaluations of the barriers to access, availability, utilization and readiness of contraception, abortion and postabortion services in COVID-19 affected areas
 - Qualitative research on women’s reproductive and psychosocial health in the context of COVID-19
- National responses to maintain SRHR services in the context of the COVID 19 pandemics and the predictors of Success
 - Documentation of national and programmatic efforts
 - Assessment of the impact COVID-19 pandemic on uptake and use of SRHR services
 - Qualitative studies to identify potential reasons for success



Department of Sexual Reproductive Health and Research (SRH) *including* the UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special programme of research, development and research training in human reproduction (HRP)

Follow us on Twitter [@HRPresearch](https://twitter.com/HRPresearch)

Visit our website who.int/reproductivehealth/hc_hiv

177 Twitter @HRPresearch



Benedict Light, UNFPA, Presenter

Ben Light has worked for UNFPA since 2004. He is Senior Policy Adviser for Family Planning and Reproductive Health Commodity Security (FP-RHCS), part of UNFPA's Technical Division, based in UNFPA's Office in Brussels. Ben has formulated many of the UNFPA's key strategy documents in the related spheres of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Commodity Security. A current focus of Ben's work is supporting countries to move towards financial and programmatic sustainability in the sphere of FP-RHCS.



UNFPA overview on the impact on commodities at country level

Ben Light, UNFPA



COVID-19

UNFPA OVERVIEW ON THE IMPACT ON COMMODITIES AT COUNTRY LEVEL

**Benedict Light, Senior Policy Adviser,
Commodity Security Branch,
Technical Division, UNFPA**

April 2020 20



Global Overview

- RH Supplies—Contraceptives and Maternal Health Medicines—are needed to ensure services & choice can be sustained
- As the world's largest procurer of donated contraceptives, UNFPA is committed to ensuring that essential supplies reach the needy, especially marginalized and vulnerable women and adolescent girls
- In the face of COVID-19, family planning supplies and services remain vital to the health and well-being of millions
- UNFPA—through the Copenhagen-based UNFPA Procurement Service—procures quality assured contraceptives that meet internationally recognized quality standards, predominantly products prequalified by WHO
- UNFPA is taking administrative measures to expedite procurement but increasingly the pandemic is beginning to strain global supply chains
- Communication with suppliers and manufacturers has increased. Challenges with sourcing, procuring, freighting and delivery are stretching timelines and causing price fluctuations

21



Procurement Specifics **(as of 31 Mar)**

- Orals, EC, Implants & Injectables: **Delays expected**
 - India – nationwide shutdown (till 14 Apr); exceptions face restrictions at ports/airports
 - Indonesia – shipping continuing according to agreed schedule; production may suffer if crisis endures where APIs sourced from Europe (UNFPA 3-months of stock)
 - Europe – supplies manufacturing at full capacity though pricing, sourcing and packaging and shipping challenges anticipated in Q3&4
- Female condoms – India suppliers affected by shutdown; Malaysia supplier facing restrictions (no pre-shipment inspections). **FC delays expected**
- Male condoms – Thailand production seems to be holding, ensuring a certain level of supply; China – beginning to return to normal; Malaysia factory closures constraining UNFPA procurement; Indian – restrictions. **Delays expected**
- IUDs – all UNFPA available sources, India based and so shutdown; existing orders blocked due to port and airport restrictions; **No UNFPA IUD supply**
- Delivery challenges – freight forwarders face a volatile market with prices changing hourly, as capacity expands and shrinks. Surcharges are affecting road freight in Europe and sea freight from Europe to Asia & US **Longer/Pricier**

22



In-Country Challenges (as of 31 Mar)

- UNFPA monitors COVID-19 impact on FP & RH commodities – HQ with Regional and Country Offices, National Authorities (Ministry of Health), Key Partners
- Gathering data and information on stock levels of contraceptives and other essential supplies, with projected risks of stock-outs. Data to be shared shortly
- Proposed actions to mitigate stock-out risks: Collaboration on fast-track procurement for pipeline orders; Liaison with the CSP & CARhs global collaborations to prioritize orders for each country; Potential stock transfers within a country or between countries to optimise stock management
- Consideration of challenges re in-country distribution of supplies (How to ensure supply delivery/distribution delivery during the crisis?)
- Broad range of programmatic challenges under consideration; general implementation delays; practical issues, such as, how to proceed with provider training and service provision in light of COVID-19 restrictions?

*No product;
No service*

23



Links to more Information

UNFPA's COVID-19 resources – news and technical briefs
<https://www.unfpa.org/covid19>

UNFPA Supplies thematic fund
<https://www.unfpa.org/unfpa-supplies>

Thank you very much

24

Tomoko Fukuda, IPPF ESEAOR, Presenter

Ms. Tomoko Fukuda is the Regional Director of International Planned Parenthood Federation in East & South East Asia and Oceania Region - (IPPF ESEAOR). Joining in June 2019, she is responsible for leadership and management of the work of IPPF in the Region, supporting 22 Member Associations and three (3) Collaborating Partners in a total of twenty-five countries for advancing sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Prior to joining IPPF, she was active in advocating for global health particularly for SRHR through roles such as the General Secretary of the Japan CSO Network on Global Health; Local Coordinator of the G20 Gender Working Group; Steering Committee Member of the Asia Pacific Alliance (APA) on SRHR; and as an Advisory Group Member of the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism for Universal Health Coverage - UHC2030.



IPPF East & South East Asia and Oceania Region Response and Lessons learned Tomoko Fukuda, IPPF ESEAOR



Webinar: COVID-19 and Implications for Family Planning Services
IPPF East & South East Asia and Oceania Region
 Response and Lessons Learned
 7 April 2020

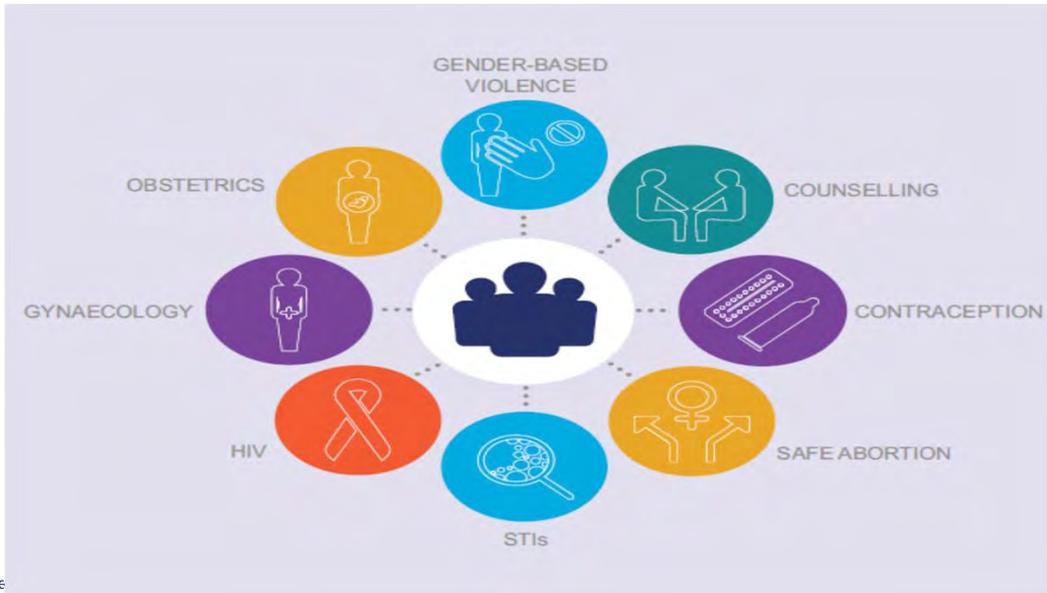
Tomoko Fukuda
 Regional Director
 IPPF ESEAR
 Kuala Lumpur
tfukuda@ippfeseaor.org



IPPF in East & South East Asia and Oceania Region

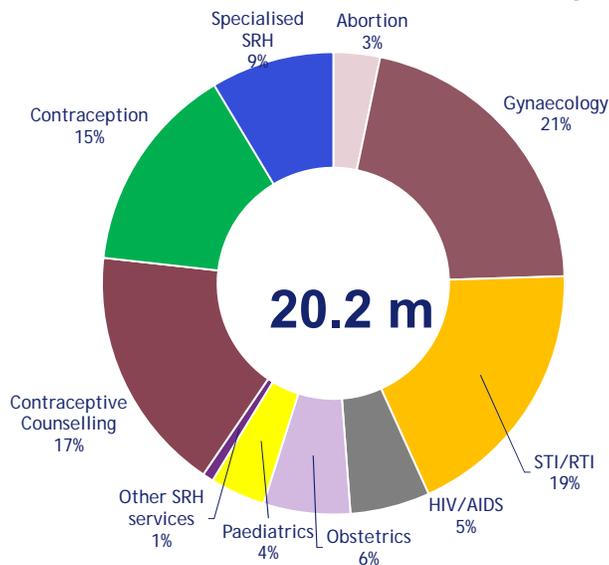


Integrated Package of Essential Services (IPES)



Confe

Total of SRHR services provided 2019



Service Delivery Network	
Static Clinic	344
Associated Health Facility	319
Mobile / Outreach Clinic	239
CBD/CBS	6720
Non clinical SDPs	259
Total	7,881

Impact of COVID-19 on SRHR Services

- As of 31 March, indicative results from a survey show that 74 static clinics (21% of all static clinics), 46 mobile clinics (19%), 20 associated health facilities (6%) and 90 community-based distributions (1.3%) have closed
- Most MAs reported having to scale down the availability of services either by decreased hours, sites, and number of working health services providers



Impact of COVID-19 on SRHR Services



- 12 MAs (48%) have reported commodity shortages including contraceptives, safe abortion and medical abortion supplies and pregnancy test kits
- One MA (Kiribati) has reported 7 staff had to be suspended
- One MA (Philippines) has dedicated health facility space to test or manage COVID-19 as part of the national response
- A steep decline in face to face training/education sessions

Response of IPPF MAs to COVID-19

- Efforts to keep SRHR clinics open, such as by reducing opening hours and operating with limited health service providers with protective measures in place (i.e. temperature taking, usage of masks)
- 4 MAs (Australia, China, New Zealand and Philippines) are providing a range of SRH services and clinical consultations via **Telemedicine**
- 3 MAs (China, Philippines, and Malaysia) have reported offering **home delivery/doorstep delivery** of SRH products like contraceptives, pregnancy test kits)
- Usage of **digital communication media** such as the internet (social media, web-based chat consultations) and telephone (direct calls, WhatsApp) for health education and information sharing



Key Message for the way forward!

Consider the **GENDER** perspective of family planning access

- Women as primary care givers in the home > TIME ↓
- Impact of the LOCKDOWN > SGBV ↑ SRHR priority/decisions ↓
- Impact on household income

Be agile, adaptive and INNOVATIVE!

- Launch new ways to deliver FP information and services
- Make use of digital technology - but Leave No One Behind!

Invest in PEOPLE & Institutions!

- Donor funds need to be invested - or even re-routed into supporting personnel and operations costs so that FP service delivery points still EXISTS after this pandemic is over



Thank you!

Yolande Hyjazi, Jhpiego Guinea, Presenter

Yolande Hyjazi is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Conakry. Currently, she is Jhpiego/Guinea Country Director. Prior to this position, she was MCHIP/Guinea Country Director. She also was Vice–Dean, responsible for Research at the Medical School in Conakry from 2001 to 2005 and worked more than 35 years in clinical practice as an Ob-Gyn. She worked as a consultant for several USAID-funded cooperating agencies, multilateral organizations and the World Bank (1994-2007). She helped develop or revise national policies, service delivery guidelines, and training curricula in FP/RH and emergency obstetric care in several countries. Since 1998, she has contributed in the introduction and strengthening of Post Abortion Care (PAC) services in her own country and in the West and Central Africa region (Burkina - Faso, Cape Verde, Guinea, Chad, Senegal) and Haiti. As an Expert Trainer, she has developed and mentored many national and regional master trainers who currently support implementation of several FP/RH programs and projects regionally.

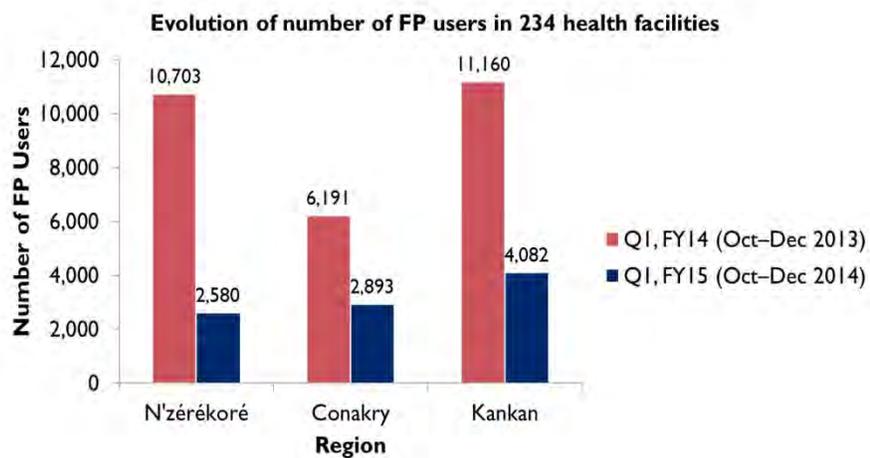


Guinea experience on the Ebola outbreak

Yolande Hyjazi, Jhpiego Guinea

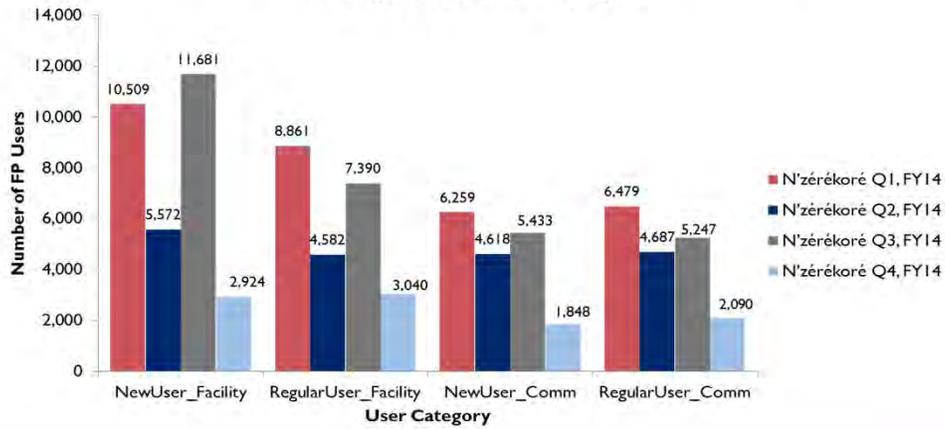


Results



Results, cont.

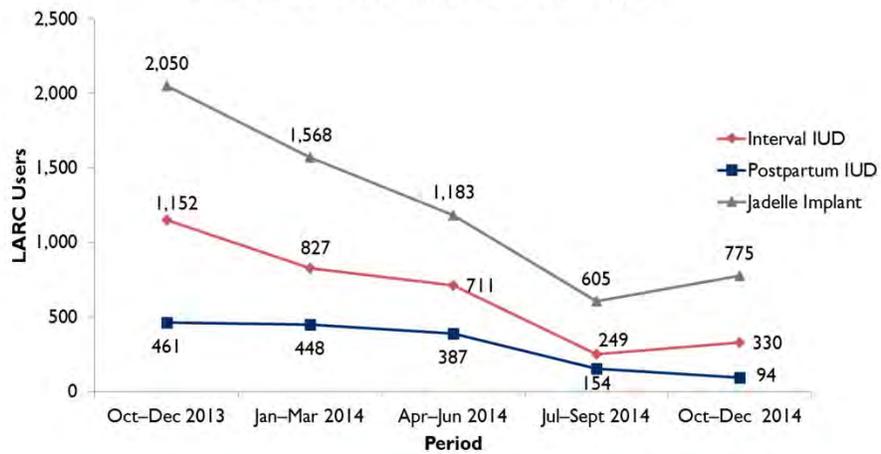
Evolution of the FP users (new and regular) at facility and community levels during FY14, N'zérékoré region



39

Results, cont.

Evolution of LARC methods in the 4 regions



40

Ricky Lu, Jhpiego, Questions and Comments

Dr. Ricky Lu is Director of Family Planning and Reproductive Health at Jhpiego. He has experience in expanding access to high-quality family planning services including integration with maternal and newborn and other reproductive health services in low-resource settings. Dr. Lu leads Jhpiego's efforts to advocate for and implement evidence-based approaches to post-pregnancy family planning, client-centered or enabled self-care, and smart technologies to improve provider performance and client engagement.



Questions and Comments



Before we close



Webinar recording will available here:

<https://gotostage.com/channel/965084607443925509>



We will send the presentations to all participants



Please visit our website for more information:

IBPnetwork.org



THANK YOU

