

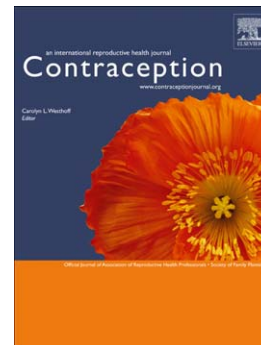
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Scientific Abstracts Featured research at the 2017 North American Forum on Family Planning

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Scientific Abstracts
Featured research at the 2017 *North American Forum on Family Planning*

The Society of Family Planning (SFP), Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), and the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP) are delighted to host the seventh annual *North American Forum on Family Planning* (the *Forum*) in Atlanta, Georgia from October 14–16, 2017. This dynamic multidisciplinary meeting is a wonderful venue for investigators in the areas of contraception, abortion, and sexual and reproductive health to gather and share research, learn, and develop new ideas and questions. The *Forum* features presentations of new research, clinical practice updates and thought-provoking breakout sessions that help us stay informed of the most current evidence and give us the tools to make a difference in the medically, socially, and politically complex sphere of family planning. A record total of 273 scientific abstracts were submitted this year, and reviewed by a panel of 73 family planning experts. The *Forum's* Scientific Committee accepted 131 abstracts for poster presentation. The Committee selected 20 of the top-ranked abstracts for oral presentation, and is proud to present four outstanding abstracts in a plenary session for all attendees. These abstracts, described briefly below, detail research from a diverse group of investigators assessing contraceptive outcomes and providing context for women seeking abortion.

An estimated 2 million new HIV infections occurred worldwide in 2015. In sub-Saharan Africa, the region with the largest burden of HIV in the world, adolescent girls and young women accounted for 25% of new HIV infections, and women accounted for 56% of new HIV infections among adults age 15 and older [1]. Many women in this region also use hormonal contraception, especially injectable depot-medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA). Whether hormonal contraception increases the risk of HIV acquisition remains an area of debate. Data by Haddad et al. on HIV acquisition among Zambian women with bacterial vaginosis (BV) provides new evidence associating DMPA and oral contraceptive (OCP) use with HIV acquisition in a subset of women with BV. The authors utilized data from a large longitudinal cohort study of HIV-serodiscordant (male HIV-positive) couples in Lusaka, Zambia, to compare HIV acquisition in women with BV compared to women with normal vaginal flora. They found an increase in

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