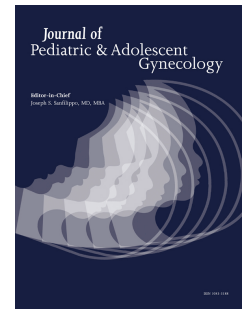


Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1083-3188(16)30095-X

DOI: [10.1016/j.jpbg.2016.07.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpbg.2016.07.002)

Reference: PEDADO 2017

To appear in: *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology*

Received Date: 26 April 2016

Revised Date: 15 July 2016

Accepted Date: 19 July 2016

Please cite this article as: Pritt NM, Norris AH, Berlan E, Barriers and Facilitators to Adolescents' Use of Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives, *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology* (2016), doi: 10.1016/j.jpbg.2016.07.002.

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Barriers and Facilitators to Adolescents' Use of Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives

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Abstract

Most pregnancies among teenagers are unintended and many can be attributed to contraception misuse or nonuse. The etonogestrel (ENG) implant and intrauterine devices (IUDs), referred to as long acting reversible contraceptives, or LARC, are the most effective reversible contraceptive methods. These methods are safe for use by adolescents, yet the number of LARC users remains low among adolescents in the United States. This review examines recent literature about barriers and facilitators to LARC use among adolescent women. Factors that influence decision making and provision are organized into four categories: 1) cost and clinical operations; 2) adolescent awareness and attitudes; 3) confidentiality, consent, and parental attitudes; and 4) healthcare provider knowledge, attitudes, and counseling. Knowledge deficits and misconceptions among adolescents and their health care providers are key barriers to adolescent LARC use.

Background

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