

## References

- Holmes K, Levine R, Weaver L. Effectiveness of condoms in preventing sexually transmitted infections. *Bull World Health Organ* 2004; **82**: 454–461.
- Boldsen JL, Jeune B, Madsen PC. Aspects of comfort and safety of condom. A study of two thousand intercourses among volunteer couples. *Scand J Soc Med* 1992; **20**: 247–252.
- Mekonen E, Mekonen A. Breakage and slippage of condoms among users in north Gondar Province, Ethiopia. *East Afr Med J* 1999; **76**: 481–483.
- Messiah A, Dart T, Spencer BE, Warszawski J. Condom breakage and slippage during heterosexual intercourse: a French national survey. French National Survey on Sexual Behavior Group (ACSF). *Am J Public Health* 1997; **87**: 421–424.
- Spruyt A, Steiner M, Joanis C, Glover L, Piedrahita C, Alvarado G, et al. Identifying condom users at risk for breakage and slippage: findings from three international sites. *Am J Public Health* 1998; **88**: 239–244.
- Ward H, Day S, Green A, Cooper K, Weber J. Declining prevalence of STI in the London sex industry, 1985 to 2002. *J Epidemiol Community Health* 2005; **59**: 22.
- Brahme R, Mehta S, Sahay S, Joglekar N, Ghate M, Joshi S, et al. Correlates and trend of HIV prevalence among female sex workers attending sexually transmitted disease clinics in Pune, India (1993–2002). *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2006; **41**: 107–113.
- Wong M, Chan R, Koh D, Barrett M, Chew S, Wee S. A comparative study of condom use and self-reported sexually transmitted infections between foreign Asian and local clients of sex workers in Singapore. *Sex Transm Dis* 2005; **32**: 439–445.
- Krogsgaard K, Gluud C, Pedersen C, Nielsen JO, Juhl E, Gerstoft J, et al. Widespread use of condoms and low prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases in Danish non-drug addict prostitutes. *BMJ* 1986; **293**: 1473–1474.
- Cusick L. Non-use of condoms by prostitute women. *AIDS Care* 1998; **10**: 133–146.
- van Haastrecht H, Fennema J, Coutinho R, van der Helm T, van den Hoek JA. HIV prevalence and risk behaviour among prostitutes and clients in Amsterdam: migrants at increased risk for HIV infection. *Genitourin Med* 1993; **69**: 251–256.
- Fornasca C, Gai F, Tarantello M, Gallina P. Knowledge of sexually transmitted diseases and condom use among female street sex workers in Padua. *Acta Dermatovenereol Alp Panonica Adriat* 2005; **14**: 107–110.
- Wang B, Li X, Stanton B, Yang H, Fang X, Zhao R, et al. Vaginal douching, condom use and sexually transmitted infections among Chinese female sex workers. *Sex Transm Dis* 2005; **32**: 696–702.
- Sopheab H, Fylkesnes K, Vun MC, O'Farrell N. HIV-Related risk behaviours in Cambodia and effects of mobility. *J Acquir Immune Defic Syndr* 2006; **41**: 81–86.
- Basuki E, Wolffers I, Deville W, Erlaini N, Luhpuri D, Hargono R, et al. Reasons for not using condoms among female sex workers in Indonesia. *AIDS Educ Prev* 2002; **14**: 102–116.
- Nemoto T, Iwamoto M, Oh H, Wong S, Nguyen H. Risk behaviours among Asian women who work at massage parlours in San Francisco: perspectives from masseuses and owners/managers. *AIDS Educ Prev* 2005; **17**: 444–456.
- Yang H, Li X, Stanton B, Fang X, Zhao R, Dong B, et al. Condom use among female sex workers in China: role of gatekeepers. *Sex Transm Dis* 2005; **32**: 572–580.
- Saunders S, Graham C, Yarber W, Crosby R. Condom use errors and problems among young women who put condoms on their male partners. *J Am Med Womens Assoc* 2003; **58**: 95–98.
- de Graaf R, Vanwesenbeeck I, van Zessen G, Straver C, Visser J. The effectiveness of condoms in heterosexual prostitution in The Netherlands. *AIDS* 1993; **7**: 265–269.
- Gabbay M, Gibbs A. Does additional lubricant reduce condom failure? *Contraception* 1996; **53**: 155–158.
- Network of Sex Work Projects. *Making Sex Work Safe*. 1999 (updated 2006). <http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws/msws-01.html> [Accessed 25 May 2006].
- Ruxrungtham K, Brown T, Phanuphak P. HIV/AIDS in Asia. *Lancet* 2004; **364**: 8213–8215.
- Busza J, Castle S, Diarra A. Trafficking and health. *BMJ* 2004; **328**: 1369–1371.
- Boynton P, Cusick L. Sex workers to pay the price. *BMJ* 2006; **332**: 190–191.
- World Health Organization (WHO). *The Male Latex Condom: Specifications and Guidelines for Condom Procurement*. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO/UNAIDS/UNFPA/FHI/SHR, 2004.

## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Patients denied access to sexual health clinics

People seeking contraceptive care, health screening, or STI testing could be experiencing reductions to choice and care. New research published by the Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care (FFPRHC) highlights disinvestment by PCTs, poor IT systems and lack of training for health professionals.

The results of the Faculty's *Community Contraceptive Services Questionnaire* (which gathered information from 129/207 service leads of community contraceptive services in the UK) highlight cuts to out-of-hours services and recruitment freezes, which are contributing to a reduction in patient access, choice and convenience. This is despite the Government's insistence that sexual health care is a priority.

The main findings of the research, which was carried out within community sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, and in conjunction with the Department of Health's own mapping exercise of contraceptive services, state:

- 40% of SRH clinics are having to reduce services, either by closing walk-in sessions when full, accepting only a fixed number of patients or only seeing people with urgent problems.
- Only 4/129 services reported increased funding available to implement long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) provision, despite the NICE clinical guideline on

LARC, which promotes choice for women through increasing access to quality services providing LARC methods.

- Only 5% of community service leads reported computerised data collection across all clinic sites when asked about data and IT systems. This exposes failures within the NHS to monitor work being done within community SRH services, which is inconsistent with the Government's *Payment By Results* scheme.

The *Community Contraceptive Services Questionnaire* can be accessed on the Faculty's website at [www.ffprhc.org.uk](http://www.ffprhc.org.uk).

## Look after your bones

Protecting your bones isn't just about checking your calcium levels. There are many other factors that put you at risk of osteoporosis, including your vitamin D intake and exercise pattern. What is most important is that your overall lifestyle is a bone-friendly one. In the Winter 2006/7 issue of *The Menopause Exchange Newsletter*, registered dietitian Tanya Haffner has plenty of advice on leading a bone-friendly lifestyle. In her article she covers various topics including calcium, vitamin D and vitamin K, healthy eating, phytoestrogens and suitable forms of exercise.

For more information contact The Menopause Exchange, PO Box 205, Bushey, Herts WD23 1ZS, UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 8420 7245. E-mail: [norma@menopause-exchange.co.uk](mailto:norma@menopause-exchange.co.uk).

## Clinical review of HPV

The website <http://www.medscape.com> provides information and self-test questions on a range of topics. It is free to register, and it currently has a series of topics on HPV.

- A clinical review on best practices in diagnosis and management of HPV and genital warts.
- News item on HPV vaccination and vulval cancer.
- Interactive case on different perspectives in HPV management.
- Article on cervical HPV screening among older women.

Reported by **Henrietta Hughes**, MRCGP, DFFP General Practitioner, London, UK

