

## Intrauterine device checks: author's response

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Dr Melvin's letter.<sup>1</sup> I would entirely agree that the approach to regular annual checks for patients using the intrauterine device (IUD) changed in the early years of the new millennium, being frequently advised before then, and generally felt to be unnecessary after that. Literature searching reveals that prior to publication of our study<sup>2</sup> there was virtually no evidence to support either approach and that the guidelines and recommendations published were simply that, with no means of substantiating any advice. Hopefully this situation has, at least in part, been rectified.

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**Competing interests** The author has benefited from payments to Whitehall Medical Practice for annual IUD checks.

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### References

- 1 **Melvin L.** Intrauterine device checks. *J Fam Plann Reprod Health Care* 2012;**38**:207.
- 2 **Draper IB, Haque MS, McManus RJ.** Routine intrauterine device checks: are they advisable? *J Fam Plann Reprod Health Care* 2012;**38**:15–18.