Then and Now

Then and Now

Impregnated IUD and vaginal ring, subdermal implant and hormonal contraception have led to the monthly injection, for service delivery. Alternative delivery systems for only recently that several new methods have been approved. Reflecting the long lag time for product development, it is the basis of major advances in the treatment of infertility. Basic research for contraceptive development has had its surprises, promoting methods sometimes turning out to be merely promises. Conversely, research in reproductive physiology done for contraceptive development has been the basis of major advances in the treatment of infertility. Reflecting the long lag time for product development, it is only recently that several new methods have been approved for service delivery. Alternative delivery systems for hormonal contraception have led to the monthly injection, impregnated IUD and vaginal ring, subdermal implant and the transdermal patch. There has lately been a renaissance of female-controlled barrier methods with improved designs for diaphragms and cervical caps besides the introduction of female condoms. More recently, non-surgical transcervical sterilisation is being performed without general anaesthesia with the hysteroscopic insertion of a device in each Fallopian tube to cause scarring. Irrespective of cost considerations, the latest contraceptive method might not be the best for a particular person. Individual choice is of paramount importance in the selection of a contraceptive method and decisions should be based on information ‘free from the pressures exerted by the media, friends and relations, and regrettably in some cases by doctors themselves’. Service providers and policy makers should emphasise their ethical obligations and put aside personal experiences, emotions and method bias to ensure the availability of, accessibility to, and counselling on a wide range of safe and effective contraceptive methods for informed choice by individuals.

References


Promotion of Yaamin

Shering Health Care Ltd wish to advise Health Professionals of the concerns voiced by the Medicines Control Agency over the promotion, between April and October 2002, of our product Yaamin.

The claims, made in journal advertisements and other promotional materials dating from April 2002, that Yaamin was the “pill for well-being”, and that it was “Well and truly different” were considered to be unjustified and potentially misleading, and as a result, have been withdrawn.

The promotion was also considered to imply an absolute degree of benefit with these claims, as the claims for weight neutrality and for affecting improvement in pre-menstrual symptoms similarly implied all aspects of such problems would be improved.

The multiple clinical studies, published in various peer-reviewed journals and referenced in the promotion, were considered inadequate to support such strong and absolute statements.

If you have any further queries about this matter, please contact our Customer Care Department who will be pleased to help you on 0845 509 6787.

Alternatively you can write to us at: Shering Health Care Ltd, The Brow, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 8NE.

The 4-0-8 Sheffield Fund

In 2001 the 4-0-8 Young People’s Consultation Centre Ltd, Sheffield, UK made a significant donation to the Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care (FFPRHC) for the purpose of funding training for health care professionals who had limited funding for attending training meetings. Any person working in the field of reproductive and sexual health care within the UK may apply. Approximately £1000 will be allocated every 3 months, either as a single award or divided between the successful applicants.

For details on how to apply to the 4-0-8 Sheffield Fund visit the Faculty website at www.ffprhc.org.uk. For an application form apply to: Chair of the Education Committee, Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care of the RCOG, 27 Sussex Place, Regent’s Park, London NW1 4RG, UK. Closing date: 6 months prior to the event for which funding is applied for.