Implanon® use in overweight clients

In reference to the letters from Drs Barber and Waters1 and Dr Matiluko 2 published in the January 2008 issue of the Journal on Implanon® failure and antiretroviral therapy, we were dismayed that obfuscation continues. Mr Malituko suggested in his reply2 that women resuming bleeding after a period of amenorrhoea on Implanon should seek advice about earlier replacement. The CEU recommends following the UKMEC Selected Practices Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, namely that women developing bleeding should be investigated if clinically indicated and that the service could recommend Implanon remain sufficient to inhibit ovulation throughout the 3 years and a return to bleeding does not demonstrate a return to fertility.3

It would be a shame if women over 70 kg were subject to an unnecessary change of Implanon at 2 years because of these letters, and it will also impact on an already overstretched management of overweight clients discussed.

Charlotte Cogswell, MBChB, DFSRH
Staff Grade Doctor, Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust, Department of Sexual & Reproductive Health, Llanrhydn House, Llanfrechfa Grange, Cwmbran, South Wales, UK.
E-mail: charlottecogswell@btinternet.com

Laura Waters, MBChB, DFSRH
E-mail: tristan.barber@chelwest.nhs.uk

Laura Winstanley, MBBS, BMedSci
Foundation Doctor, Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust, UK.
E-mail: lauzwinstan@doctors.org.uk

Author’s note
The text of this letter is taken from a poster presentation by the author at the Medical Women’s Federation ‘90 Years and Beyond’ Conference on 1 November 2007 at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, London, UK.

References
3. Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care Clinical Effectiveness Unit. Members Enquiry Response Enquiry Reference: [1027].
4. Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care Clinical Effectiveness Unit. Members Enquiry Response Enquiry Reference: [1037].

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are welcome and generally should not exceed 600 words or cite more than five references. For comments on material published in the most recent issue of the Journal, correspondence should be received within 4 weeks of dispatch of that Journal to be in time for inclusion in the next issue. When submitting letters correspondents should include their job title, a maximum of two qualifications and their address(es). A statement on competing interests should also be submitted for all letters. Letters may be submitted to the Editor or the Journal Editorial Office (details on page 73).