Appendix 2: Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Studies were included if they:

- focused on reasons for discontinuation of contraceptive methods, or the objectives included identification of reasons for (dis)continuation of contraceptives
- considered women of reproductive age (between 16 and 49 years)
- were based in developed countries (presumed to have adequate contraceptive service provision).

Studies were excluded if they:

- were carried out in low- to middle-income countries. We wanted a reasonably homogeneous, educated, developed-country sample of studies where cultural beliefs, language problems, etc. were less likely to be an issue, so that our results would be relevant to Australia
- were not written in English
- focused on special subpopulations such as women with disabilities or specific medical conditions
- focused on abortion (termination of pregnancy)
- focused on emergency contraception
- focused on permanent contraceptive methods (tubal sterilisation and vasectomy)
- focused on non-contraceptive condom use
- focused on perimenopausal, menopausal and/or postmenopausal women
- were literature reviews (including systematic literature reviews) or conference abstracts.