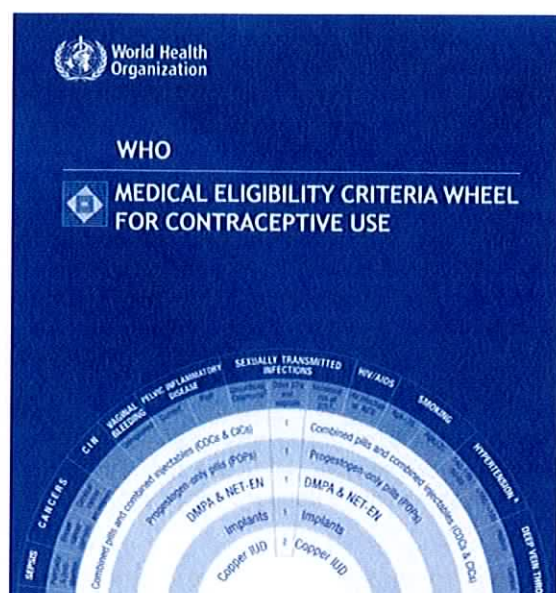


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## World Health Organization

### WHO Medical Eligibility Criteria Wheel for Contraceptive Use



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This wheel contains the medical eligibility criteria for starting use of contraceptive methods. It is based on *Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 3rd edition (2004)*, one of WHO's evidence-based guidelines (see overleaf).

It tells family planning providers if a women presenting with a known medical or physical condition is able to use various contraceptive methods safely and effectively.

The wheel includes recommendations on initiating use of six common types of contraceptives:

1. Combined pills (low dose combined oral contraceptives)
2. Combined injectable contraceptives
3. Progestogen-only pills
4. Progestogen-only injectable, DMPA and NET-EN
5. Progestogen-only implants
6. Copper-bearing IUD.

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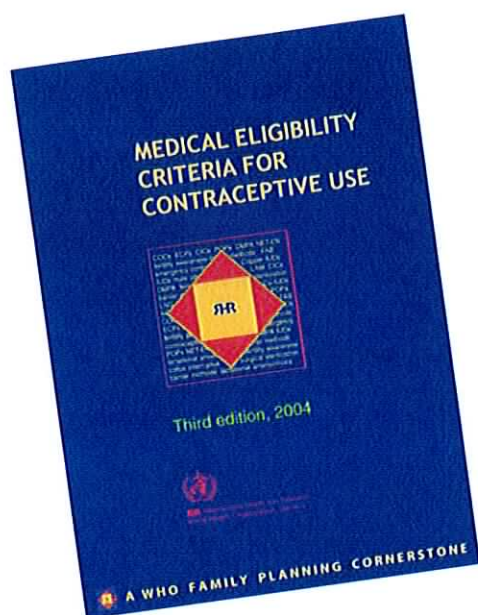
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## Companion volume

# Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use

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These new recommendations aim to provide guidance to national family planning/reproductive health programmes in the preparation of guidelines for service delivery of contraceptives. This new edition updates the second edition of *Improving access to quality care in family planning: medical eligibility criteria for contraceptive use*, published in 2000, and summarizes the main recommendations of a WHO expert working group which brought together 36 participants from 18 countries, including representatives of many agencies and organizations.

This new edition provides recommendations for appropriate medical eligibility criteria based on the latest clinical and epidemiological data and is intended to be used by policy-makers, family planning programme managers and the scientific community.

The book covers the following family planning methods: low-dose combined oral contraceptives (COCs), combined injectable contraceptives (CICs), combined patch (P), combined vaginal ring (R), progestogen-only pills (POPs), depot medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA), norethisterone enantate (NET-EN), levonorgestrel (LNG) and etonogestrel (ETG) implants, emergency contraceptive pills (ECPs), copper intrauterine devices (Cu-IUDs), levonorgestrel-releasing IUDs (LNG-IUDs), copper-IUD for emergency contraception (E-IUD), barrier methods (BARR), fertility awareness-based methods (FAB), lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), coitus interruptus (CI), and female and male sterilization (STER).

Changes on the medical eligibility criteria for contraceptive use and all categories for hormonal contraceptives and intrauterine devices are included.

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