Glossary

**Contraceptive Implant**
The contraceptive implant is a progestogen only method of contraception and consists of a single rod which is inserted in the arm, under the skin. The implant offers protection from pregnancy for up to 3 years.

**Intrauterine Device (IUD)**
An IUD is a small plastic and copper device that is inserted into the womb. It releases copper which protects against pregnancy for between 5 and 10 years.

**Intrauterine System (IUS)**
An IUS is a small plastic device that is inserted into the womb. It releases progestogen which protects against pregnancy for between 3 and 5 years.

**Contraceptive Injection**
The contraceptive injection releases progestogen into the bloodstream to protect against pregnancy. Depo-Provera and Sayana Press both last for 13 weeks.

**Deprivation area**
Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintiles are also known as deprivation areas. Each area consists of approximately 20% of the population living in Scotland. They are ordered from 1 (most deprived) to 5 (least deprived).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metadata Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publication title</td>
<td>Long Acting Reversible Methods of Contraception (LARC) in Scotland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Annual update on the proportion of women of reproductive age prescribed LARC in each NHS Board area. Based on NHS Board of prescription.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Health and Social Care.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Sexual Health services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>PDF document and excel tables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data source(s)</td>
<td>Primary care data – Prescribing Information System (PIS). Sexual health data – National Sexual Health IT System (NaSH).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LARC are prescribed in a variety of settings throughout Scotland. Data are collected on contraception provision in all these settings but are not currently collated and reported nationally. The data in this report have been collected from the following sources:

1) **Community Prescribing (primary care)**
   ISD’s prescribing team maintains a detailed database of all NHS prescriptions dispensed in the community in Scotland.

2) **NaSH**
   The system is an electronic patient record for specialist sexual health services in Scotland and as a secondary function can provide aggregate national information on clinical activity. NaSH provides information on items prescribed from sexual health and family planning clinics; however, it does not cover the acute sector (obstetrics, gynaecology and post termination services).

**Table 7. Deprivation information sourced from NaSH is based on the patient’s current or most recent postcode, regardless of when a prescription was obtained. Each year this table will be revised to reflect this. Primary care data in this table has also been revised in this publication release. Both NaSH and primary care deprivation data are based on Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016 configuration at Scotland level.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date that data are acquired</th>
<th>Data requested from PIS – July 2019. Data extracted from NaSH – July 2019.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Release date</td>
<td>03/09/2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Annual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeframe of data and timeliness</td>
<td>Financial years 2013/14-2018/19 are reported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuity of data</td>
<td>Data are reported from consistently collated data from 2013/14, allowing comparison over the years included.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revisions statement</td>
<td>Any incomplete data due to shortfalls in submissions from NHS Boards are revised at the next annual release.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revisions relevant to this publication</td>
<td>Intrauterine system (IUS) data previously included Mirena and Jaydess. For the first time in this publication it now also includes Kyleena and Levosert. IUS data from previous years has been revised to reflect this.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Concepts and definitions
Long acting reversible methods of contraception (LARC) include the contraceptive implant, the intrauterine system (IUS) and the intrauterine device (IUD). Contraceptive injections are also reported on but are presented separately.

## Relevance and key uses of the statistics
Making information publicly available for planning, provision of services, assessing impact of policies/initiatives and monitoring progress against sexual health standards.

## Accuracy
Data are subject to internal checking procedures.

## Completeness
Considered complete.

## Comparability
Some information on use of various types of contraception in England is available at the above link.

## Accessibility
It is the policy of ISD Scotland to make its web sites and products accessible according to published guidelines.

## Coherence and clarity

## Value type and unit of measurement
Number of items prescribed and rate per 1,000 women are presented (using populations aged 15-49 sourced from National Records of Scotland). Rates for the under 20 age group use populations aged 15-19 and rates for 45+ use populations aged 45-49. This age range has been used to reflect reproductive age however it is worth noting that there may be females aged less than 15 or over 49 who choose to use LARC.

LARC rates are calculated for NHS Board of treatment using population figures for NHS Board of residence. Therefore, rates do not account for patients travelling across boundaries for treatment (e.g. Lanarkshire residents travelling to NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde). This should be taken into consideration when comparing rates between NHS Boards.

## Disclosure
The ISD protocol on Statistical Disclosure is followed.

## Official Statistics designation
National Statistics.

## UK Statistics Authority Assessment
June 2011.

## Last published
September 2018.

## Next published
September 2020.

## Date of first publication
February 2007.

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## Date form completed
31/07/2019.
A3 – Early Access details (including Pre-Release Access)

Pre-Release Access
Under terms of the "Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics (Scotland) Order 2008", ISD are obliged to publish information on those receiving Pre-Release Access ("Pre-Release Access" refers to statistics in their final form prior to publication). The standard maximum Pre-Release Access is five working days. Shown below are details of those receiving standard Pre-Release Access.

Standard Pre-Release Access:
Scottish Government Health Department
NHS Board Chief Executives
NHS Board Communication leads
About ISD
Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.
Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

Purpose: To deliver effective national and specialist intelligence services to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Scotland.

Mission: Better Information, Better Decisions, Better Health

Vision: To be a valued partner in improving health and wellbeing in Scotland by providing a world class intelligence service.

Official Statistics
Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

ISD’s statistical publications are currently classified as one of the following:

- National Statistics (ie assessed by the UK Statistics Authority as complying with the Code of Practice)
- National Statistics (ie legacy, still to be assessed by the UK Statistics Authority)
- Official Statistics (ie still to be assessed by the UK Statistics Authority)
- other (not Official Statistics)

Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website.

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.