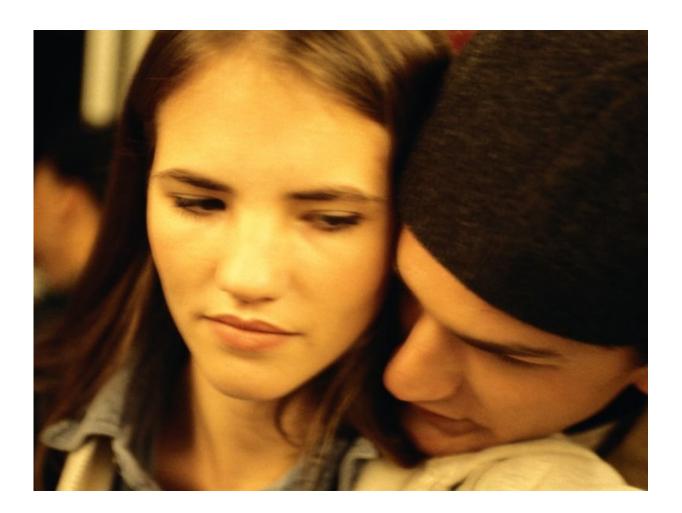


Long-acting reversible contraceptives good for teens

April 27 2018



(HealthDay)—Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) are



suitable for use by adolescents, according to a Committee Opinion published in the May issue of *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Noting that from 2006 to 2010, 82 percent of adolescents at risk of unintended pregnancy were using contraception but only 59 percent used a highly-effective method, researchers from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Committee on Adolescent Health Care address contraception among adolescents.

The researchers note that, compared with short-acting contraceptives, LARC have higher efficacy, continuation rates, and satisfaction rates among adolescents who choose to use them. Complications associated with intrauterine devices and contraceptive implants are rare, with little difference between adolescents and women, indicating that these methods are safe for adolescents. Patients' lack of familiarity with or understanding of these methods, potentially high cost of initiation, lack of access, low parental acceptance, and obstetrician-gynecologists' and other <u>health care</u> providers' misconceptions about LARC safety in adolescents are barriers to LARC use. Obstetrician-gynecologists should continue to follow standard guidelines for <u>sexually transmitted infection</u> (STI) screening because of the increased risk among adolescents. Adolescents who use LARC should be encouraged to use male or female condoms to reduce the risk of STIs.

"Obstetrician-gynecologists should counsel all sexually active adolescents who do not seek pregnancy on the range of reversible contraceptive methods, including LARC, and should help make these contraceptives readily accessible to them," the authors write.

More information: <u>Abstract/Full Text</u>

Copyright © 2018 HealthDay. All rights reserved.



Citation: Long-acting reversible contraceptives good for teens (2018, April 27) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <u>https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-04-long-acting-reversible-contraceptives-good-teens.html</u>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.