

FAMILY PLANNING

A GLOBAL HANDBOOK FOR PROVIDERS¹

Methodology

The new chapters to accompany the current edition of Family Planning: a Global Handbook for Providers, reflect World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations that have been issued since its publication in 2018. The development of the chapter titled “Family Planning for Women at High Risk of HIV” was informed by recommendations issued by a WHO Guideline Development Group that met in July 2019 on contraceptive eligibility for women at high risk of HIV,² and in a July 2020 policy brief by WHO and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) highlighting recommended actions for improved clinical and prevention services and choices.³ The chapter titled “Providing Family Planning Services During an Epidemic” is based on interim WHO operational guidance on maintaining essential services during an outbreak (published in March and updated in June 2020)⁴ and a WHO brief responding to questions on COVID-19 and family planning.⁵ A multidisciplinary group of experts, including experts in family planning and HIV, representatives from affected populations, clinicians, epidemiologists, pharmacologists, program managers and policy-makers, contributed to the development and review of the chapters (see Acknowledgements).

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- 1 The full 2018 Handbook is available at: <https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/fp-global-handbook/en/>
 - 2 Contraceptive eligibility for women at high risk of HIV: guidance statement: recommendations on contraceptive methods used by women at high risk of HIV. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2019 (<https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/contraceptive-eligibility-women-at-high-risk-of-hiv/en/>, accessed 12 November 2020).
 - 3 Actions for improved clinical and prevention services and choices: preventing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections among women and girls using contraceptive services in contexts with high HIV incidence. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020 (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/actions-for-improved-clinical-and-prevention-services-and-choices-preventing-hiv-and-other-stis-among-women-and-girls-using-contraceptive-services>, accessed 12 November 2020).
 - 4 Maintaining essential health services: operational guidance for the COVID-19 context: interim guidance. 1 June 2020. COVID-19: Essential health services. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020 (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/covid-19-operational-guidance-for-maintaining-essential-health-services-during-an-outbreak>, accessed 17 November 2020).
 - 5 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): contraception and family planning. Geneva: World Health Organization; 6 April 2020 (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-contraception-and-family-planning>, accessed 12 November 2020).

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