LONG ACTING reversible CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS REDUCING UNINTENDED PREGNANCY IN AUSTRALIA

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The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) has released a Consensus Statement on the use of long acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs), supporting general agreement among international clinical experts, that they are the most effective reversible contraceptive.

AHHA Chief Executive Alison Verhoeven believes that increased access to LARCs, can reduce unintended pregnancies in Australia.

“Training programs for health professionals in implant and IUD insertion and removal should be made easily available. In particular, nurses, midwives and nurse practitioners can and should have increased involvement in LARC procedures,” said Ms Verhoeven.

Rebekah Bowman from the Australian College of Midwives agrees. “Midwives are an important post natal support to women. They need to understand the advantages of LARCs in order to pass on this knowledge and help women make informed choices about their future contraceptive method.”

“Ideally our national curriculum should include this training for registration. It should become a standard part of postnatal care, particularly for vulnerable populations,” Ms Bowman continued.

Contact Australian College of Midwives spokesperson Rebekah Bowman for comment on 0408 300 119 or Rebekah.Bowman@canberra.edu.au.

Additional information: The Australian College of Midwives
The Australian College of Midwives (ACM) is the peak professional body for midwives in Australia who are registered with, and regulated by, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA). The ACM's position is that women be attended during pregnancy, birth and postnatally by a midwife who is registered with the NMBA.