



September 2012

New Resource on Forecasting Demand for New and Underused Family Planning Methods

Consider this scenario...

In an effort to address high unmet need for family planning, the Ministry of Health in your country has committed to expanding options for women and couples by adding a new method to public sector programs. The first order of business is ordering an initial stock of the commodity. When the forecasting committee convenes its quantification meeting to decide how many contraceptives will be procured for programs in the coming year, the new method on the list poses a distinct challenge! With no past usage data to support quantification, how should the committee forecast demand? Funds are limited, so they want to be sure they don't over-order. On the other hand, avoiding stockouts is equally important.

Have you ever considered how programs forecast for family planning commodities when there is limited or no historical data on which to base the projection?

The new resource, *A Forecasting Guide for New and Underused Methods (NUMs) of Family Planning*, provides direction to programs that want to (1) introduce a family planning method for the first time in a country, and/or (2) position an underused

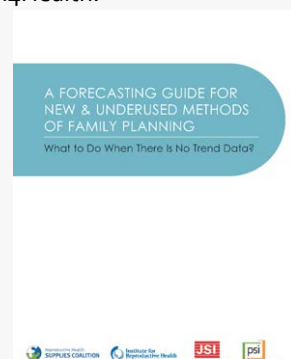
Save the Date

October 17th at 12pm EST, authors of the Forecasting Guide for New and Underused Methods will host a Webinar to introduce key elements of the guide.

[Reserve your spot now.](#)

Read the guide today!

The Forecasting Guide for NUMs can be accessed as a PDF or as a toolkit through K4Health.



[Click to download the PDF](#)

method for scale up. The guide recognizes that accurate forecasts take into account the larger system into which the NUM will be introduced and scaled, and it offers a framework for building rational assumptions to support accurate forecasting for NUMs or any family planning method where future demand is inherently difficult to predict. It also identifies common pitfalls in NUMs forecasting and recommends strategies to avoid them.

The conceptualization and documentation of this guide was a coordinated effort among Georgetown University's Institute for Reproductive Health (IRH), [John Snow Inc. \(JSI\)](#), and [Population Services International \(PSI\)](#), with input from key experts in the field of global health. Support for this project was funded by [PATH](#) on behalf of the [Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition's](#) Innovation Fund.

Announcements

CycleBeads Procurement Guidance from WHO

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released an Advisory Note providing guidance on the procurement of CycleBeads®. Read the Advisory Note [here](#).



CCIH Releases Guide on Family Planning Supplies Acquisition & Seeks Comments from the Field

The first edition of [Getting Contraceptives to Health Facilities: 10 Questions for Faith-Based Groups to Consider](#) aims to help faith-based organizations plan and implement the process of ensuring a consistent supply of family planning commodities for service delivery. CCIH is seeking comments on the guide from those who have experience in the field of reproductive health supply acquisition.



Learn more by participating in a webinar on Wednesday, September 19 at 2:30pm EDT. To RSVP to the webinar or provide feedback on the guide, email Amy Metzger at amy.metzger@ccih.org.



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Upcoming Events

Come visit IRH's exhibit or hear us present at the following upcoming events:

[Association of Reproductive Health Professionals](#)
New Orleans, LA | Sept. 20-22, 2012

[Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition Annual Meeting](#)
Paris, France | Oct. 4-5, 2012

[American Public Health Association](#)
San Francisco, CA | Oct. 27-31, 2012

[Global Symposium on Health Systems Research](#) Beijing, China | Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2012

Visit www.irh.org

Focus Areas
Projects

Expanding choice and ensuring contraceptive security, a spotlight on CHAK

This case study by CCIH showcases how the Christian Health Association of Kenya (CHAK) is bringing an array of family planning methods out of the health facility to the community level and how they are overcoming challenges with commodity stockouts.

[Read it here.](#)

Research
Resources



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