



October 2011

This year, the Institute for Reproductive Health (IRH) published several new peer reviewed journal articles which contribute to the body of knowledge on reproductive health. We'd like to share these research results with you and encourage you to consider them in your work.

[New article shows long-term effectiveness and continuation of the Standard Days Method® \(SDM\)](#)

Research reported in the article, "Continued Use of the Standard Days Method®," published in the August edition of the *Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*, demonstrates that SDM is a viable longer-term method of family planning. Results show that women continue to use SDM over time, and the method remains effective in the second and third years of use.

[Evidence presented demonstrating the importance of using unmet need as an evaluation indicator](#)

Results of the study reported in the article, "The Role of Need for Contraception in the Evaluation of Interventions to Improve Access to Family Planning Methods," in the *Journal of Evaluation Review* highlight an important factor in measuring the impact of interventions to increase use of family planning: women's need. This study shows that if unmet need is not taken into account, evaluations may incorrectly conclude that interventions are ineffective.

[The TwoDay Method® is a feasible and easy to teach family planning option](#)

"TwoDay Method: a quick-start approach" was published in the July issue of *Contraception*. The article shows that the TwoDay Method (TDM) can be easily taught to women at any time during their menstrual cycle, and that women can use it effectively regardless of which day of their cycle they were counseled. This reduces barriers to offering the method since the woman does not need to wait until she starts her period in order to begin using TDM. For more information about TDM, [click here](#).

[Report on Faith and Family Planning](#)

IRH has also completed a new report titled *Faith-Based Organizations as Partners in Family Planning: Working Together to Improve Family Well-being*. This report follows a year-long initiative of data gathering and a subsequent technical consultation at Georgetown University highlighting Christian, Muslim and secular perceptions of the relationship between faith and family planning. This report reflects the interest among many diverse actors within the Christian and Muslim communities to expand access to family planning information and services as well as the interest of secular health organizations in partnering with faith groups. At the same time, the report also reveals barriers and potential issues to partnerships between secular and

Follow IRH



faith-based organizations working to improve health through family planning. To access the report, [click here](#). For inquiries about the initiative, please contact lev9@georgetown.edu.

Announcements

[Bringing New People to Family Planning: The Broader Impact of Fertility Awareness-based Methods](#)

Date: November 28, 2011

Time: 8:30am-1:00pm

Location: Dakar, Senegal, Le Meridien President Hotel

In this half-day workshop facilitators and participants will share their experiences introducing two simple fertility awareness-based methods - the Lactational Amenorrhea Method and Standard Days Method - in diverse service delivery settings and explore factors that can facilitate or hinder successful integration into programs. A variety of tools and resources will be available to participants. Evidence shows that expanding family planning options by including Fertility Awareness-based Methods in programs contributes to addressing unmet need, improving birth spacing, and building strategic alliances for greater impact. According to [Family Planning: A Global Handbook for Providers](#), new fertility awareness-based methods "are easier to use correctly than some of the older ones and thus could appeal to more couples." This workshop is sponsored by Georgetown University, Institute for Reproductive Health with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development. This session will be offered in French only.

For more information, please contact: Jen Schulz, jms483@georgetown.edu.

[Technical Consultation on Very Young Adolescents \(VYAs\) in Dakar](#)

Date: December 3, 2011

Time: 9:00am-5:00pm

Location: Dakar, Senegal, Ngor Hotel

IRH and Save the Children will host a Technical Consultation on VYAs following the International Family Planning Conference in Dakar, Senegal. The consultation will explore 1) Why focus on VYAs and sexual and reproductive health? 2) Can working with VYAs help us achieve the MDGs: promoting gender equity and empowering women, reducing child mortality, and improving maternal health? 3) What works? What doesn't? RSVP for this auxiliary session and contact Beth Outterson, boutterson@savechildren.org. This consultation is free. Space is limited, so register early!

Upcoming Events

Visit IRH or hear us present at the following upcoming events:

- [APHA](#), Oct 29 - Nov. 2, 2011, Washington, DC

- Presentation: "CycleTel in India: Effective Family Planning on Mobile Phones"
- Poster: "Expanding Access to Family Planning in Non-Traditional Settings: Offering the Standard Days Method in Small Shops (Boutiques) in Rural Mali"
- Come visit our exhibit, #2036!
- [American Evaluation Association Conference, Evaluation 2011](#), Nov. 2-5, 2011, Anaheim, California
 - Presentation: "Using Most Significant Change methodology to evaluate the impact of scaling up of a health innovation in four countries"
- [Global Missions Health Conference](#), Nov. 10-12, 2011, Louisville, Kentucky
 - IRH is co-sponsoring an exhibit on Family Planning for Christians with our partner Christian Connections for International Health.
- [2011 International Conference on Family Planning](#), Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2011, Dakar, Senegal
 - Learn more about IRH's work during the conference by attending our oral presentations, posters, panels, and exhibit.

Sincerely,
Your colleagues at IRH

Institute for Reproductive Health, Georgetown University
4301 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310
Washington, District of Columbia 20008
Tel. 202-687-1392 Fax 202-537-7450
www.irh.org

Interested in using Constant Contact for your own organization? [Try it here.](#)

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to mp447@georgetown.edu by irhinfo@georgetown.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Institute for Reproductive Health | 4301 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 310 | Washington | DC | 20008



Try it FREE today.