



## Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare

### Statement on '#MyPillStory' and reported restrictions in access to contraception

FSRH has noted many women taking to the Twitter feed #MyPillStory to share their experiences of using the contraceptive pill and difficulties in accessing the full range of contraceptive methods available in the UK. It is our belief that these reported difficulties are indicative of a need for national standards and training in sexual and reproductive healthcare for healthcare professionals.

We believe that the vast majority of healthcare professionals provide high quality clinical advice and information to women about the full range of contraceptive methods available in the UK. However, #MyPillStory has highlighted a worrying trend in lack of contraceptive choice for some women.

FSRH believes that contraception is a fundamental human right. Both women and men should have confidential open access to the full range of contraceptive methods and services available in the UK (including emergency contraception, long acting reversible methods (LARC) and sterilisation). Likewise, we believe that all staff providing sexual and reproductive healthcare, in whatever setting it is delivered, should treat patients with kindness and respect, in a non-judgemental way.

FSRH CEO, Jane Hatfield, said:

*"Whilst the majority of contraceptive care in the UK is delivered to a high standard, there is still room for improvement to enable all women to make an informed choice about their reproductive health. FSRH's [Vision](#) for sexual and reproductive healthcare takes care to highlight that everyone has the right to be offered the full range of contraceptive options and the opportunity to discuss how different contraceptives work on a one-to-one basis with a trained healthcare professional."*

Ends

04.04.2016

#### Notes to editors:

- The Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (formerly called the Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Healthcare). It grants diplomas, certificates, fellowships and equivalent recognition of specialist knowledge and skills in family planning and reproductive health care. It has over 16,000 doctors and nurses of whom approximately 10,000 are general practitioners. As a body it promotes conferences and lectures, provides members with an advisory service and publishes *The Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*. For more information please visit [www.fsrh.org](http://www.fsrh.org)
- FSRH provides the Diplomate Assessment of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (DFSRH/NDFSRH) training package for both doctors and nurses. The package is for healthcare professionals who wish to demonstrate that they have attained the knowledge, attitude and skills required to deliver safe and effective sexual and

reproductive healthcare in community, primary and secondary care settings. Our Diploma is suitable for both doctors and nurses working in general practice, community and integrated sexual health services. For more information about FSRH's training packages, please visit: <http://www.fsrh.org/pages/Training.asp>

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