



The Search Project

A health service model to improve access to essential reproductive and sexual health services for women in NSW



We believe...

All people should have access to client-centred, evidence-based reproductive and sexual health services, including choices for highly effective contraception and balanced information about pregnancy options and abortion.

Sustainable and Equitable Access to Reproductive Choices

The **SEARCH** Project is a collaborative initiative between the NSW Ministry of Health and Family Planning Australia (FPA). It aims to improve access to reproductive health services, particularly medical abortion and long-acting reversible contraception. **SEARCH** focuses on helping strengthen access to reproductive health choices for all residents of regional and rural NSW especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by supporting providers to deliver accessible and equitable care.

The **SEARCH** model works to build the capacity of local providers and remove barriers to vital healthcare by supporting healthcare workers to provide reproductive and sexual health services that are both high-quality and financially sustainable.

The SEARCH project aims to:

Develop and support access for the provision of medical abortion services and choices for long-acting reversible contraception and enhance the quality of care for people accessing these services

Address the issue of staff turnover and loss of local providers by supporting the development, implementation and sustainability of local service delivery and expanding the network of trained and accredited health professionals who can deliver these services

Understand and track the change in local service provision as a result of the project and support partners in sharing service data with the SEARCH Project team

What does SEARCH provide?

The Project provides partners and their teams with:

1 Professional education opportunities:

Sponsored access to blended learning packages for topics including: pregnancy options, medical abortion, implant insertion/removal and IUD insertion/removal*

2 Organisational support for:

Service planning and implementation including the development of local clinical governance such as best practice policies, procedures, clinical documentation tools/forms, risk management strategy, financial modelling and client-facing resources based on FPA templates and local consultations

3 Clinical services support:

Ongoing support and mentoring from experienced clinicians during upskilling and while establishing services including invitations to webinars and update days

4 Evaluation tools:

To develop data collection systems/methods to monitor the effectiveness and growth of service provision

5 Marketing and communications resources:

Access to a range of marketing and communications collateral developed by FPA

* Enrolment in clinical placement for IUD insertion/removal is limited and dependent on meeting eligibility criteria.

The SEARCH Project team works with each partner to develop a flexible model adapted to the needs of local consumers, communities and providers.

The SEARCH Project is supported by an online resource hub for our partners.

Located on our e-learning platform <https://elearning.fpnsw.org.au/> the resource hub gives access to:

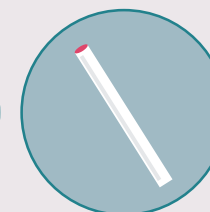
- Education courses for clinical and non-clinical staff including:



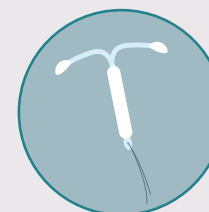
Pregnancy Choices



Medical Abortion



Contraceptive Implant



IUD Insertion Online and in person*

- Examples of planning frameworks and guidelines including best practice policies and procedures for establishing abortion and LARC clinical services.

Access to the Community of Practice for SEARCH is also hosted on the resource hub.

Education Program – Abortion and LARC Training Model

STAGE 1



Pregnancy Choices
2 hours online

Introductory training for doctors, nurses, Aboriginal
Health Workers and allied health staff



Medical Abortion 4 hours online

Training for MTOP providers

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

STAGE 2

LARC training for doctors and nurses
working with medical supervision

Contraceptive
Implant



3 hours online

1 hour clinical
simulation workshop:
face to face or online

Intrauterine
Device (IUD)*



5 hours online

3 hour face to face workshop
plus 16 hours supervised
clinical placement*

IUD Refresher*

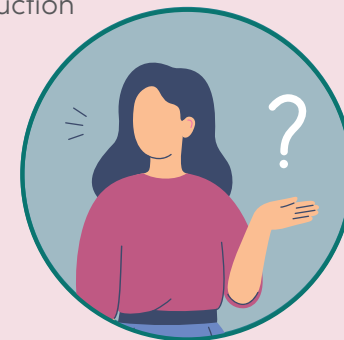
3 hours face to
face workshop

Suitable for clinicians who are
already trained IUD inserters
wishing to refresh and enhance
their knowledge in IUD insertion

*Inserting an IUD is an advanced skill in the primary care health practice setting and enrolment in the clinical placement module requires an appropriate level of prior skills and experience in contraceptive counselling, speculum and bimanual pelvic examination skills. Training places are limited and require completion of an eligibility questionnaire before acceptance to the module.

Pregnancy Choices

- 2 hours self-paced, online learning – introduction for all clinical and non-clinical staff
- Unintended pregnancy in the NSW context
- Abortion and legal considerations in NSW
- What are the options?
- What are the current barriers for people accessing abortion in NSW?
- Non-directive pregnancy choices: best practice framework principles
- Balancing personal and professional considerations
- Referral pathways
- Case studies



Medical Abortion

- Self-paced, online learning – RACGP CPD – 3 hours educational activities, 1 hour reviewing performance
- Medical abortion in Australia and legal issues
- Medications for medical abortion
- Practical considerations
- Assessment and the consultation
- Follow up and contraception
- Clinical scenarios and complications



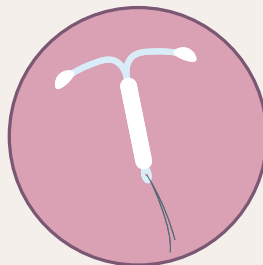
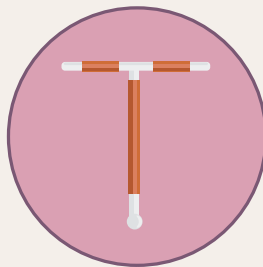
Contraceptive Implant

- Online courses and face-to-face workshops are available
- RACGP CPD – 3 hours educational activities, 2.5-3 hours under reviewing performance
- An online course will provide you with the knowledge about the contraceptive implant, followed by either a face to face or online workshop to provide supervised hands-on training to safely insert and remove an implant



IUD Insertion

- RACGP CPD – 8 hours educational activities, 16 hours reviewing performance
- An online course is available to equip you with the theoretical and practical knowledge to extend your contraceptive counselling skills for intrauterine devices
- For those continuing on to clinical placement, completion of a predisposing activity (RACGP requirement) and attendance at a 3-hour, face-to-face workshop is then followed by a 16 hour clinical placement module
- Clinical placement is available for doctors, nurses and midwives (with clinical support by a medical practitioner in their own practice), however enrolment places are limited and are dependent on meeting eligibility criteria



IUD Refresher Training

- 2 hours educational activities, 1 hour reviewing performance
- A face-to-face workshop designed for clinicians who are already trained IUD inserters and wish to refresh and enhance their knowledge, skills and confidence in IUD insertion
- The workshop covers expert tips and tricks for insertion of all IUDs available in Australia, practise of IUD insertion using pelvic models, and case studies discussing commonly encountered clinical scenarios. A Statement of Attendance can be used for self-reported activity for CPD

Once you become a partner:

The SEARCH Project is supported during the year by a series of webinars presented by experienced FPA clinicians where we explore different reproductive choice topics and case studies.

The team is also available for face-to-face update and workshop days in regional areas.

Project partners are also encouraged to become active participants in the Community of Practice to access regular updates from the team at FPA and connect with others providing services in the state.

Tracking and evaluating service and delivery change is an important aspect of the project and each quarter we ask this information is shared with the SEARCH Team as part of the project reporting process. We have a number of tools to support this which are made available to our project partners.

Are you interested in knowing more about the SEARCH Project or would like to be involved?

Please reach out to the team by:

Calling the Project Manager
– (02) 8752 4360 or

Emailing us via
searchproject@fpnsw.org.au

Still building your local services?

Family Planning Australia is a leading provider of reproductive and sexual healthcare.

We have a day surgery in Newington offering a range of services, including surgical abortion. We're accredited with IPTAAS and local doctors may be able to refer patients for travel and accommodation support if services closer to home are not available.

Call Family
Planning
Australia
1300 372 372





Family Planning Australia | 8 Holker Street, Newington, 2127 | ABN 75 000 026 335

www.fpnsw.org.au | 1300 372 372

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Family Planning Australia is a not-for-profit organisation funded by the NSW Ministry of Health

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