

Greetings DKT Supporter,



Exciting developments in reproductive technology globally may soon have a place in Ethiopia.

How about a contraceptive injection for men that neutralizes sperm and can be reversed with a second injection? Researchers in India are close to bringing this to market. Down the road, might we see a contraceptive microchip that can be managed using a mobile phone? Researchers in the USA believe they are only a couple of years away from this technology.

DKT Ethiopia has been a leader in expanding sexual and reproductive technology since its inception in 1990. Most recently, we led the successful registration of a post-partum intra-uterine device (PPIUD), which has significant cost and usability advantages.

Whatever the case, DKT stands ready to deliver on its mission of providing couples and individuals with an affordable, safe and wide range of family planning, child survival and reproductive options.

- Rory

THE FUTURE ISSUE

New reproductive technologies could soon be coming to Ethiopia

SAYANA PRESS
VASALGEL
NEXT GENERATION
CONDOMS

PLUS

WHAT WILL ETHIOPIA'S
REPRODUCTIVE
LANDSCAPE LOOK
LIKE IN 2030?

NEW TECH

Emerging reproductive technologies may be on the horizon for Ethiopia. Below are a few products you may see soon.

Sayana Press, a new formulation and presentation of Depo-Provera, is a three-month, progestin-only injectable contraceptive packaged in the Uniject™ injection system. Uniject is a small, prefilled, auto-disable device, which enables a precise dosage and less painful injection because the needle is smaller and the injection is delivered subcutaneously instead of intramuscularly.



A polymer gel developed in India and licensed as *Vasalgel* in the United States may soon provide men a reversible contraceptive option. The product works by injecting a gel into the *vas deferens*, the tube that conveys sperm from the testicle to the urethra. The polymer is thought to weaken sperm membranes causing them to be inert. What's more, if a man wishes to restore sperm flow and potentially impregnate his partner, the polymer can be flushed out with a second injection.



Next-Gen Condoms

In 2013, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation offered \$100,000 to 11 competitors to develop the next generation of condoms. Interesting entries at the time included a condom made from bovine (cow) tendons and a *one-size fits all condom* that gradually shrinks during intercourse. No entries have made it to market yet, but work continues!



Anti-HIV Vaginal Ring



Vaginal rings already serve as contraceptives, but researchers at the Universities of Pittsburgh and Alabama Birmingham in the United States are exploring whether the technology can be used for dual HIV and pregnancy prevention. A Phase 1 clinical trial is currently underway to test a combined *dapivirine* and *levonorgestrel* formulation. Results are expected in mid-2018.

THE FUTURE

Technologies a bit further out there...



Contraceptive App

A downloadable contraceptive may be closer than you think. Thanks to a microchip technology under development by MicroCHIPS Biotech, USA, and with the support of the Gates Foundation, users may be able to regulate the release of hormonal contraceptives for as many as 16 years. And, users wishing to become pregnant, can simply discontinue the release of the hormone preventing pregnancy.



Slowdown Sperm

As spermatozoa reach the egg wall, they go into a state of hyper-motility characterized by vigorous flagellation.

Researchers at UC Berkley in California, USA, think they may be able to block the calcium required to activate this hyper-motility, preventing the "final kick" required for sperm to penetrate the egg wall.

A Male Contraceptive for Ethiopia?

Researchers in India and the USA are developing a reversible male contraceptive injection. ACCESS asked a few people how this would be received in Ethiopia.

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"Men always say this is women's problem. They are not willing to use contraceptive methods. So, it needs more evaluation and behaviour change."

Adancech Tesfaye
DKT Ethiopia



"Why not? Most of us are living in a tough situation. Even it is hard to cover school payment... Myself, I am becoming tired

of covering the expense of diapers. So why don't I receive a contraceptive?"

Hassen*
Newspaper Salesman



"More options is always a good thing. If I was 100% confident in the safety and efficacy of the product, I would

consider using it."

Ken Divelbess
USA

* name changed

Access is DKT Ethiopia's quarterly publication. All *Access* publications are available at www.dktethiopia.org. For media and other inquiries, please contact Fitih Tola, DKT Ethiopia's Public Relations Officer, at +251 11 6 632222 or fitih.t@dktethiopia.org.

FP/RH 2030

WHAT WILL ETHIOPIA'S FAMILY PLANNING/REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (FP/RH) LANDSCAPE BE LIKE IN 15 YEARS?

In a country known for ambitious planning and achievement, what will the family planning/reproductive health (FP/RH) landscape look like in the future? ACCESS takes a look at a few features that could define the years to come.

STORIED PAST

Ethiopia's success in setting and achieving ambitious FP and RH targets is well known. The country was a leader in Africa in Millennium Development Goal (MDG) achievement and was one of two countries selected for an EXCELL award at the 2016 Interna-

tional Conference on Family Planning in Indonesia.

LONG-TERM METHODS

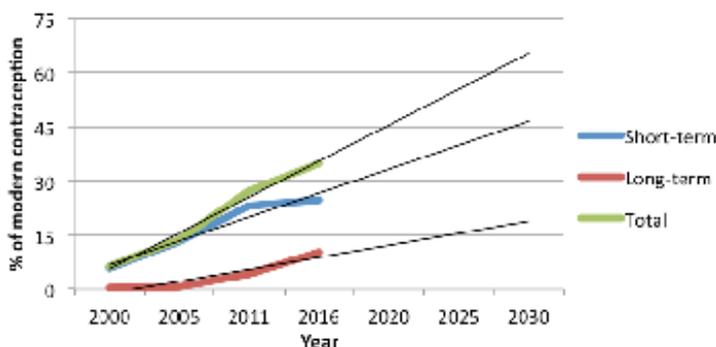
The growth in long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) as a share of total contraception is a notable feature of recent FP data.

In 2000, long-term methods accounted for 6% of modern family planning in Ethiopia. By 2016, this figure had increased to 29% (2016 Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey [DHS] Key Indicators Report).

Extrapolating from the most recent DHS surveys...

(*con't at dktethiopia.org/news*)

Short vs. Long-term Contraception, 2000 - 2016 and trend 2030



Currently married women 15 - 49; Source: EDHS Surveys 2000 - 2011, Prelim. 2016

DKT BRIEFS

PPIUD REGISTERED

DKT finished registration of a post-partum intra-uterine contraceptive (PPIUD) with the FMHACA. DKT will target GO and NGO partners during initial distribution.

DKT LICENSES MVA FROM IPAS

DKT International, the parent of DKT Ethiopia, licensed Ipas's Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA) technology recently. DKT will handle all manufacturing, distribution, marketing, and oversight.

NEW PARTNER CLINICS

DKT's *Partner Clinic* network continues to grow, with 58 Partner Clinics in the network at the end of May. DKT now has Partner Clinics in Oromia, Tigray, Amhara and SNNP as well as Addis Ababa.

IMPLANON NXT FIELD TRAINING

Implanon NXT, considered a game changer by many, is being promoted through on-the-job training by DKT nurses. DKT has already trained providers in Amhara with plans to reach Tigray, , and SNNP soon.

(see dktethiopia.org/news for full details)

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