

TOP STORY

Project educates Kazakhstani women on monitoring medical abortion outcomes

The dBest multilevel pregnancy test (MLPT) is available in Kazakhstan for purchase. Until recently, though, most providers and women were unaware that it could be used to monitor medical abortion outcomes. With support from a special safe abortion-themed round of the Innovation Fund, Gynuity developed and tested written instructions and a short [instructional video](#) for women and providers on the use of MLPTs for medical abortion follow-up in Russian Kazakh. Gynuity partnered with the local IPPF affiliate, Kazakhstan Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health (KMPA), and other advocates to inform providers, representatives of the Ministry of Health, and other policymakers about the MLPT and these new resources. Current in-country efforts focus on the registration of an MLPT for sale in pharmacies, which will increase access to this novel technology.

Medical abortion providers routinely require women to return one or two weeks after taking abortifacient drugs to confirm pregnancy termination. Ultrasound, pelvic examination, or serum pregnancy tests are costly and may be inconvenient, particularly for women who live far away or have competing commitments, and they must be performed by specially trained personnel.

[Read more](#)

IN THE NEWS

EuroNGOs hear that funding gap could reach cumulative \$1.1 bn

As the number of users of contraception grows, so too does the volume of supplies required for user consumption. The Coalition's recent Global Contraceptive Commodity Gap Analysis ([CGA](#)) costed current and projected user consumption volumes, and compared those costs to the amount currently spent on contraceptive supplies across 135 low- and middle-income (LMI) countries.

At the recent EuroNGOs 2017 conference Nina Miller, CGA project lead, shared key findings on the growing gap between the cost of contraceptive supplies and the funding available to purchase them. She revealed that the gap between the consumption cost and all spending on supplies is projected to reach a cumulative \$1.175 billion for the years 2016 through 2020. She was speaking in a panel co-hosted by the Coalition, titled "SRHR without contraceptives? Supplies financing in an increasingly challenging funding environment" with speakers from the Mozambican Association for Family Development, PAI, and UNFPA. [Read more](#)

Coalition's Safe Abortion work stream takes shape

Earlier this year, the Executive Committee decided that the Coalition's work in safe abortion commodities should gain momentum under the umbrella of a dedicated work-stream. In September, the NURHT Caucus became home to a new-work stream focusing on safe abortion commodities. Participants from foundations, donor agencies, technical organizations and civil society attended an inaugural teleconference which refined the agenda for the upcoming meeting in Dakar. For more information, co-leaders Nathalie Kapp from Ipas and Jennifer Blum from Gynuity can be reached at kappn@ipas.org and jblum@gynuity.org.

Key players come on board Latin American initiative

Last month, [SupplyInsider's lead story](#) shed light on a new two-part initiative designed to bridge a largely sidelined Latin America with world advances in contraceptive commodity security, and assist rural health authorities in four countries to estimate more accurately the cost of distributing RH supplies and advocate for increased resources for commodities. Since then, the Coalition's ForoLAC has brought together high-level key players such as UNFPA-LACRO, Peru's Ministry of Health and CENARES (Peru's National Procurement Agency). They have developed work-plans, and have taken on board a costing tool to be used with rural health authorities. A situational analysis is underway to gather market intelligence from LAC countries on price and volume of contraceptives procured, actual demand and unmet need, and other key market indicators. The findings will inform the organization of two "encuentros" or special learning sessions, which the Coalition and UNFPA-LACRO will co-host with national governments, manufacturers and procurers. For more information, please contact Milka Dinev at mdinev@rhsupplies.org.

Welcome to new NURHT Chair

The Coalition is delighted to welcome on board Nuriye Hodoglugil, MD, MA, DrPH, as the new Chair of the [NURHT Caucus](#). Nuriye, who is Sr. Reproductive Health Technical Advisor at Jhpiego, brings more than two decades of work on global reproductive health, with experience in some of NURHT's priority areas: product introduction and scale-up, product registration, and safe abortion. We also extend our appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Heather Clark, for her excellent and committed support of the group for the past four years.

NEW MEMBERS

Cameroon's [St. Léonard Coalition](#) for Family Planning, against HIV AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is an organization promoting family planning and disease awareness, from a Christian perspective.

[Africa Health Business Ltd](#) is a Kenya-based technical support agency which convenes an annual symposium around global health issues including access to quality, affordable health commodities such as family planning.

[Suretex Limited](#) is a Thailand-based male condom and personal lubricant manufacturer.

Nigerian organization [Last Mile Health and Development Association](#) focuses on hard-to-reach and difficult-to-serve communities with a view to increasing access to family planning, reproductive health, and health care services.

IN THE CALENDAR

<u>Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition 18th General Membership Meeting</u>	23-27 October Dakar, Senegal
<u>Africa Health Business Symposium</u>	6-7 November Dakar, Senegal
<u>17th Annual Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Reproductive Health Crises Meeting</u>	8-10 November Athens, Greece
<u>Fourth Global Forum on Human Resources for Health</u>	13-17 November Dublin, Ireland
<u>3rd Biennial Scientific Conference: Sustaining the Momentum for Regulatory Harmonization in Africa</u>	27-29 November Abidjan, Ivory Coast
<u>9th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights</u>	27-30 November Hanoi, Vietnam
<u>XXII FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics</u>	14-19 October 2018 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
<u>5th International Conference on Family Planning</u>	12-15 November 2018 Kigali, Rwanda

[Women Deliver 2019 Conference](#)

3-6 June 2019

Vancouver, Canada



Reproductive Health
SUPPLIES COALITION

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