

National Contraception Training Services (NCTS)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the role of Family Planning in delivering LARC training nationwide?

A. The Ministry of Health (MoH) has awarded Family Planning the contract to design and deliver a nationwide training platform for Contraceptive Counselling and LARCs insertions and removals. The training will be aligned with the new National Contraception Guidelines that are produced by an external third party vendor in conjunction with the National Contraception Guidelines Steering Group.

Q. What is the purpose of the new National Contraception Guidelines?

A. The National Contraception Guidelines will cover best practice for contraception services for all women of reproductive age who may wish to regulate their fertility by using any contraception method available in New Zealand. They are expected to cover specific issues for the use of contraception during different life-stages and different population groups as appropriate.

Q. How will we access the new National Contraception Guidelines?

A. The third party vendor is responsible for publishing the new National Contraception Guidelines on HealthPathways and MoH has published to their own website. <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/new-zealand-aotearoas-guidance-contraception>

Q. What will change to how LARC training is delivered currently?

A. Currently a number of different organisations deliver their own contraception and LARC training. The aim is to ensure there is consistency in training following best-practice and in alignment with the National Contraception Guidelines.

Q. What are the training options?

A. Contraceptive Counselling online training modules will be made freely available to any New Zealand Registered Health Professional (doctor, nurse, midwife) who wishes to refresh their contraceptive knowledge. This will help ensure widespread familiarity with the new guidance. Family Planning will commence its trainer and assessor course from early 2021.

Some DHBs would prefer to utilise local trainers for the practical LARCs trainings therefore DHBs/PHOs can now choose to use Family Planning's trainers and/or a suitable local trainer(s).* A mentor is still required for either option.

Family Planning's training documentation (checklists, pre-requisites, assessment tools etc) will be made available to support local trainers (available on request).

If you choose to use Family Planning's trainer should the required number of patients not arrive on the practical training day and/or if a trainee is unable to achieve competence, a local trainer who has completed Family Planning's trainer and assessor course, or equivalent (ie a DHB-selected trainer) can oversee the remaining practical training requirements at a time to suit, providing it is within the six-month window from commencement of training.

***A suitable local trainer is any highly experienced LARC inserter who has the capacity and capability to provide practical training/assessment to other health professionals. If your DHB already has a suitable trainer and/or other mechanisms for selecting a suitable trainer, this is acceptable.**

Q. Will Family Planning credential this training?

A. No, Family Planning are not credentialing training, but will certify the health professional on successful completion of training. Family Planning has approached professional colleges to have the training recognised for CPD points where applicable e.g. RNZGP.

Q. Does the trainee need to pay for the training?

A. There is a set number of MOH funded places and if you have been approved for one of these, there will be no cost over the term of the contract i.e. up to October 2022.

Q. Is the training available to anyone who wants to do this?

A. Contraceptive Counselling online training modules will be made freely available to any New Zealand Registered Health Professional (doctor, nurse, midwife) who wishes to refresh their contraceptive knowledge. This will help ensure widespread familiarity with the new guidelines.

Q. What is the role of the Mentor?

A. The mentor is a LARC trained and experienced clinician who can provide support to a newly trained healthcare professional. There is no requirement for this to be in person, they just need to be contactable.

Q. Do experienced LARC Healthcare Professionals who will Fast-track to certification require a mentor?

A. No

Q. Can we use those who Fast-track as mentors to new trainees even though they are not yet certified?

A. Yes

Q. How many Healthcare Professionals can one mentor supervise?

A. The Healthcare Professional can mentor as many trainees as they feel they can be available to support.

Q. Is the mentor required to be onsite when the trainee is training?

A. No, this is a support role only.

Q. How do you train as a trainer and assessor?

A. Each DHB can train one clinician as a trainer under the NCTS Programme as per the MoH pathway. ([see the NCTS Training Pathway](#)).

Q. What is the purpose of the stocktake, capacity and capability spreadsheet?

A. The spreadsheet will become the DHB register of all LARC Healthcare Professionals, identifying capacity, capability and new trainees to be trained in each region.

Q. Who will be responsible for the spreadsheet?

A. Going forward it is the responsibility of the DHB to maintain this register and provide visibility of LARC Health Professional capacity, capability in your region to the MOH. Family Planning will hold a record of learning in our Learning Management System which is available on request.

Q. How is the training delivered?

A. There is a mix of both online and practical procedural training to be fully certified in LARC procedures.

Q. On what platform is the online training delivered?

A. The online training will be on the Family Planning Learning Management System that will be accessed via the Family Planning website, <https://www.familyplanning.org.nz/courses>

Q. What technology does a trainee need to complete the online training?

A. The online training is browser based and will work on most standard browsers, IE, Edge, Firefox, but works best on Google Chrome browser.

Q. Is there any cost associated with the doing the online training for the trainees?

A. No, there is nothing payable to Family Planning if you have been approved for training by your DHB and allocated an MOH funded training place.

Q. The Healthcare Professionals who train as NCTS Trainers will they be financially compensated to train other trainees?

A. Family Planning is not funded to financially compensate any individuals who become trainers.

Q. When does the trainer component need to be done in relation to the practical training.

A. To enrol in the online Trainer and Assessor course you need to be fully certified in the practical training component ([see the NCTS Training Pathway](#))

Q. Why do I have to do the Contraceptive Counselling training, when I have already done similar training previously?

A. The Contraceptive Counselling online course is a pre-requisite for all practical training. The course content will align with the new National Contraception Guidelines and will ensure that trainees have knowledge of these prior to undertaking practical training.

Q. Can I just do the Contraceptive Counselling online course or must I choose one of both of the other courses?

A. Yes you can choose to just complete the Contraceptive Counselling online course.

Q. Who will arrange the training session?

A. Family Planning will arrange when the training sessions will be held, based on the information submitted by DHBs if you are doing your training with Family Planning, otherwise your DHB will arrange directly with you.

Q. How will the training sessions be communicated?

A. Family Planning will communicate directly with the DHB Funding and Planning Manager or LARC Contract Provider as well as the trainee (where we have their contact details) to seek confirmation that the nominated healthcare professionals will attend the training date.

Q. On the day of training what if some of the patients are unable to come in e.g., due to sickness or do not turn up?

A. The training will proceed with the number of patients that turned up on the day, but the trainee will be unable to successfully complete their practical training until they have completed the required number of procedures. We suggest overbooking the clinic to reduce the chances of not having enough patients.

Q. In relation to the above question will the trainer come back to the area to certify the individual once the required number of patients is obtained?

A. As we are on a reasonably tight schedule to get around the country to undertake training, it is unlikely the trainer will be able to come back in the short term. Instead it would be advisable for the trainee to arrange with their trainer to have their DHB trainer assess the remaining outstanding trainings required to be completed within 6 months of online.

Q. Why do you need our Health Professionals APC or Registration number?

A. A Health Professional's APC number provides visibility the trainee is licensed to practice in NZ and used for course registration.

Q. Why does each trainee require so many patients to train on, 5 for Implants and 8 for IUC?

A. This is the international standard number required to train to competence. Trainees will observe the trainer performing the procedure on the first patient and then perform the procedure on the remaining patients under supervision of the trainer.

Q. What if I am unable to find the required number of patients to train on, 5 for Implant procedures and 8 for IUC procedures?

A. The DHB or LARC Contract Providers would need to question if the trainee is unable to find the required number of patients to train on whether they would be able to maintain competency. Each DHB needs to determine the prioritisation of LARC practitioners required for their region's needs.

Q. I have already done LARC training and am very competent and perform these procedures currently why do I need to retrain?

A. You don't need to retrain. The MoH has not set any requirement for this, but you may decide you wish to so your certification is aligned with the National Contraception Guidelines.

Q. If I am an experienced LARC clinician and decide not to retrain and certify under the new training model, can I still practise?

A. Yes

Q. I work in a small town practice and will struggle to find the required 8 patients for IUC training, what other options are there for LARC training where there is a high need?

A. Where this is a real struggle to find the required 8 patients for IUC training, we will consider spreading the training over more than 1 session. This will be discussed with you and your regional DHB or LARC Contract Managers, to find a suitable solution. We will review the

logistics of coming back to your region and if this is not practical then we may suggest you finish your practical training at one of our Family Planning clinics.

Q. I work in a small town practice and there are very limited opportunities for finding a mentor. Is there a possibility of Family Planning clinicians being used as mentors for people on a regional basis?

A. Yes, we will offer support post training during the contract period, however it is advisable to find a local mentor wherever possible.