

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 Contraception Counselling and LARCs. The training will be aligned with the new National Contraception Guidelines that are produced by an external third party vendor in conjunction with the Contraception Guidelines Steering Group.

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

A. The 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 Contraception Guidelines?

A. The third party vendor is responsible for publishing the new Contraception Guidelines, but for the purposes of training there will be a condensed version available to reference on the MoH website, once these are approved.

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. Will Family Planning credential this training?

A. No, Family Planning are not credentialing training, but will certify the training that is successfully completed. Family Planning intends to work with professional colleges to have the training recognised for CPD points where applicable.

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

A. No, Family Planning is contracted by MoH to provide this training until 2022. There is no cost to the trainee.

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

A. No, the DHBs must put forward the names of trainees to Family Planning. The priority is to improve equity and access to contraception throughout New Zealand.

Q. What is the role of the Mentor?

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

Q. Do experienced LARC Health 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 Health Care Professionals can one mentor supervise?

A. The Health Care 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 many can train as trainers?

A. Each DHB needs to decide how many Health Professionals at the end of the 3 years they would like to have trained up as trainers to continue to deliver the LARC training in their region.

Q. Will you certify trainers first?

A. No, in Year 1, our focus is on delivering the LARC training to health professionals.

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

A. The spreadsheet will become the DHB register of all LARC Health 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.

Q. Why is the spreadsheet so comprehensive?

A. There are two reasons for this, firstly Family Planning require this information to deliver the training and report on it to MoH and secondly each DHB will keep this spreadsheet as their Health Professional LARCs register for themselves and MoH.

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, we are funded by MoH for this training.

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

A. Family Planning has no obligation to financially compensate any individuals who become trainers and is not covered by the contract

Q. When can we get access to the Online training?

A. It is estimated that online training will commence at the beginning of October 2020. The National Contraception Guidelines need to be approved by the colleges and published before we can start training.

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

A. The NCTS Training Matrix indicates to enrol in the online Train-the-Trainer course you need to be fully certified in the practical training component.

Q. What do the black and white checkmarks mean on the NCTS Training Matrix?

A. The black checkmarks are for the training that is being referred to and the white ones refer to all pre-requisites.

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

A. The Contraception Counselling online course is a pre-requisite for all practical training, therefore, all trainees must do this. The course content will align with the new National Contraception Guidelines.

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

A. Yes you can choose to just complete the Contraception 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 responses for training that have been submitted by the DHBs.

Q. How will the training sessions be communicated?

A. Family Planning will communicate directly with the DHB Funding and Planning Manager or LARC Contract Providers as to when training will take place and ask for confirmation that the nominated health 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 certify 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 go to the nearest Family Planning clinic to complete their training with a Family Planning clinician.

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 reporting purposes.

Q. Why does each trainee require so many patients to train on, 4 for Implants and 8 for IUC?

A. This is the 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, 4 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 number 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 certify so your certification is aligned with the new 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. Are there other providers who do LARC training?

A. Once the new Contraception Guidelines come into force, this is the only LARC training programme in New Zealand that is funded and approved by the MOH.

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 to 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 employed to be 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.