

## MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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All Provincial Directors of Medical Services
All Provincial Directors of Public Health and Sanitation

## PROVISION OF DEPOT MEDROXYPROGESTERONE ACETATE (DMPA INJECTABLE CONTRACEPTIVE) BY TRAINED COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHWs)

The Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation, and the Ministry of Medical Services remain committed to improving access to quality family planning services. As outlined in Reproductive Health Strategy 2009 to 2015, the Ministries of Health as well as the Ministry of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 have set a goal of significantly increasing the number of Kenyans utilizing family planning services, with a target of 56% contraceptive prevalence rate by 2015.

From August 2009 to August 2010, the Ministries of Health supported a demonstration project to evaluate whether trained Community Health Workers can safely provide depot medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA) at the community level. The demonstration project was conducted in Tharaka District of Eastern Province, with oversight from the Division of Reproductive Health, Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation, and the participation of several key partners.

Based on the findings of the successful demonstration project, and subsequent consultations with key stakeholders, the Ministries of Health hereby amend the National Family Planning Service Provision Guidelines to permit the provision of injectable contraceptives (DMPA) by trained Community Health Workers in under-served / hard-to-reach areas of Kenya. Examples of underserved areas include Baringo, Garissa, Mandera, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir, and West Pokot, Kajiado, Kilifi, and Isiolo.

Only Community Health Workers who have been trained and certified by the Division of Reproductive Health shall be authorized to provide injectable contraceptives (DMPA).