

# Documenting the Effects of COVID-19 on Family Planning Access and Use with Standardized Questions

As the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery process unfold, access to voluntary family planning (FP) care has been and will continue to be disrupted. Yet meeting the family planning needs of women and couples remains essential. Generating comparable evidence from multiple countries and programmatic contexts is critical to advancing understanding of the effects of the pandemic and recovery process on FP access and use, supporting program adjustments and generating broader learnings to inform the response to future pandemics.

# **PURPOSE**

The USAID-funded R4S Project, with technical assistance from the USAID-funded *Envision FP* Project, has developed a series of survey questions that can be added to ongoing studies and activities to systematically capture the effects of the pandemic and recovery process on FP access and use.

# USE

The COVID-FP survey questions are presented as a menu of questions that can be integrated into existing data collection platforms or studies. It is assumed that some background information would be collected as part of the broader platform or study within which the module is being used. All or a subset of questions may be included depending on available resources and the specifics of the design (e.g. cross-sectional vs. longitudinal, target population), though we recommend that core questions (highlighted in blue) be systematically included.

#### The question module will capture the following information:

- ✓ Unintended pregnancies
- √ FP need and use
- √ Source of supply
- ✓ Method choice

- ✓ Method switching
- √ Barriers to obtaining methods
- ✓ Interest in self-care options
- ✓ Long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) removals

# **CONTACT US**

If you are planning on using these COVID-FP questions, please email us at <a href="R4Sinfo@fhi360.org">R4Sinfo@fhi360.org</a> and we can provide you with a Word version of the survey model. In addition to tracking use of these questions, we are interested in synthesizing results and making them publicly available in collaboration with partners.

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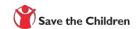












# **COVID-FP Standard Questions**

**Note:** questions highlighted in blue are core questions we recommend including in every survey

Tailor these sentences to the specifics of each country: The government of XXX declared a National State of Disaster /Emergency on XXX and has implemented social containment measures (lockdown, curfew and other social distancing efforts) designed to control the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We would like to ask you some questions about how this has affected your access to family planning services.

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
101	Were you or your partner doing something or using any method to delay or avoid getting pregnant when the Coronavirus restrictions (COVID-19) began?	Yes	→105 →105
102	What method were you using when the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began?	Female sterilization       1         Male sterilization       2         Implant       3         IUD       4         Injectable - Intramuscular       5         Injectable - Subcutaneous       6         Pill       7         Emergency Contraception       8         Male Condom       9         Female Condom       10         Std. Days/Cycle beads       11         LAM       12         Rhythm method       13         Withdrawal       14         Other method       15	→104 →104 →104 →104 →104 →104 →104 →105 →105 →105 →105
103	Who gave you the injection?	No response       -99         Self-administered       1         Friend/relative       2         Health care provider       3         Pharmacist       4         Drug/chemical shop       5         CHW       6         Other       7         No response       -99	<b>→</b> 105

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
104	Where did you obtain the method?	PUBLIC SECTOR	
		Govt. Hospital/polyclinic11	
	Probe to identify the type of source	Govt. Health center12	
		Mobile clinic13	
		CHW14	
		Community event15	
		PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR	
		Private hospital/dinic21	
		Private doctor22	
		Pharmacy 23	
		Chemical/drug store24	
		OTHER SOURCE	
		Shop/market31	
		Friend / relative	
		DIRECT TO CONSUMER	
		Delivered to my home41	
		Website42	
		App43	
		Phone service44	
		Other96	
		Don't know88	
		No response99	
		•	
105	Are you currently pregnant?	Yes1	
		No	<b>→</b> 109
		Unsure 2	<b>→</b> 109
		No response99	<b>→</b> 109

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
106	Depending on format of survey:		
	OPTION 4	OPTION 1	
	OPTION 1	Select month [][]	
	When did you get pregnant?	Select Hohiri [][]   Select year [][][]	
	Tricin ala you get pregnant.	Program calculates based on date above	
		Date is before COVID restrictions	→END
	OPTION 2 (if format does not allow asking for a date):	Date is after COVID restrictions 2	
		Unsure 3	→END
	Did you get pregnant before or after the Coronavirus (COVID-19)	No response99	→END
	restrictions began?	OPTION 2 (if format does not allow	
		asking for a date):	
		ability for a date).	
		Before 1	→END
		After2	
		Unsure 3	→END
107		No response99	→END
107	When learning that you were pregnant, did you plan to be pregnant	I/we planned this pregnancy at that time 1	→END
	at this time?	I/we planned a pregnancy, but I/we had planned to wait until later	
	at this time:	I/we did not plan to become pregnant at all 3	
	Read response options	No response99	
108	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Yes1	
	pandemic and the social restrictions	No0	All
	affect your ability to avoid or delay	Unsure 2	<b>→</b> 143
100	pregnancy?	No response99	
109	Which of the following best describes your wishes for children in the future?	I want a child in the next two years 1 I want to wait at least two years before the	
	your wishes for children in the future?	birth of a child	
	Read response options	I don't want any children/more children 3	
		I want a child but I don't know when 4	
		I don't know if I want a child 5	
		No response99	
110	Are you or your partner currently	Yes 1	
	doing something or using any method	No	→143
	to delay or avoid getting pregnant?	No response99	<b>→</b> 143

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
111	What method are you using?	Female sterilization	→113 →113 →113 →113 →113 →113 →113 →113 →113
		LAM	→113 →143 →143 →143 →113 →143
112	Who gave you the injection?	Self-administered1Friend/relative2Health care provider3Pharmacist/drug shop4CHW5Other6No response-99	
113	Depending on format of survey:  OPTION 1  If Q111=1-10  When was the last time that you obtained your current [method from Q111]? /	OPTION 1  Select month [][] Select year [][][]  Program calculates based on date above Date is before COVID restrictions	<b>→</b> 129
	If Q111=11 When did you start LAM?  OPTION 2 (if format does not allow asking for a date):  If Q111=1-10	Unsure	→129 →129
	Did you last obtain your current [method from Q111] before or after the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began? If Q111=11 Did you start LAM before or after the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began?	Before	→129 →129 →129

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
114	PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS	Is using SDM If Q111=11	<b>→</b> 114A
		Is using injectables, pills, EC, or male or female condoms If Q111 in (5,6,7,8,9,10)	<b>→</b> 114B
		Is using another modern method excluding LAM If Q111 in (1,2,3,4,15)	<b>→</b> 115
		Is using LAM If Q111=12	<b>→</b> 119
114A	Did you use a website, app or phone service to get information on the safe days for you to have sex without getting pregnant during your menstrual cycle?	Yes	
114B	Did you use a website, app or phone service to buy your current [method from Q111]?	Yes	
115	Did you use a website, app or phone service to schedule an appointment to get your current [method from Q111]?	Yes	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
116	Where did you or your partner last	PUBLIC SECTOR	
	obtain your current [method from	Govt. Hospital/polyclinic11	
	Q111]?	Govt. Health center12	
		Mobile clinic13	
	Probe to identify the type of source	CHW14	
		Community event15	
		DDIVATE MEDICAL CECTOR	
		PRIVATE MEDICAL SECTOR	
		Private hospital/dinic	
		Private doctor	
		Pharmacy	
		Chemical/drug store24	
		OTHER COLIDCE	
		OTHER SOURCE Shop/market31	
		Friend / relative	
		Thend / Teladive	
		DIRECT TO CONSUMER	
		Delivered to my home41	
		Website42	
		App43	
		Phone service	
		Other96	
		Don't know88	
		No Response99	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
117	What is the main reason why you chose this location?	COVID REASONS  Usual place/other places closed	
118	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you chose this location?	Yes	
119	PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS	Was using before COVID and is using now If Q101=1 and Q105 in (0,2,99) and Q110=1:	
		Switched methods If Q102≠ Q111	<b>→</b> 120
		Using same method If Q102=Q111	<b>→</b> 123
120	Was [method from Q111] the method you wanted?	Yes	<b>→</b> 124

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
121	You said you were using [method from Q102] before the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began and you are using [method from Q111] now. What is the main reason why you chose [method from Q111]?	Can administer/manage myself	
122	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you chose [method from Q111]?	Yes	All →129
123	You said you were using [method from Q111] before the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began and you are using it now. Have you wanted to switch methods?	Yes	→129 →129 →129
124	What method did you want to use?	Female sterilization       1         Male sterilization       2         Implant       3         IUD       4         Injectable - Intramuscular       5         Injectable - Subcutaneous       6         Pill       7         Emergency Contraception       8         Male Condom       9         Female Condom       10         Std. Days/Cycle beads       11         LAM       12         Rhythm method       13         Withdrawal       14         Other method       15         No response       -99	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
125	What is the main reason why you wanted to use [method from Q124]?	Can administer/manage myself	
		Nobody will know I am using it	
		Few side effects/fewer side effects than other methods	
		than other methods	
		Recommend by provider	
		Other       .96         Don't know       -88         No response       -99	
126	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you wanted to use [method from Q124]?	Yes	
127	What is the main reason why you did not obtain [method from Q124]?	Method not available	
		to provide method	
		Provider recommended a different method . 5 Not eligible for method	
		Other96 Don't know	
		No response99	
128	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you did not obtain [method from Q124]?	Yes.       1         No.       0         Unsure       2         No response       -99	
129	PROGRAMMING INSTRUCTIONS: Determine if currently using implant or IUD for skip pattern	Using an implant or IUD IF 110=1 AND (111=3 OR 111=4)	<b>→</b> 130
		Using any other method IF 110 in (0,99) OR (109=1 AND 111 in (1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,15)	<b>→</b> 150

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
130	Since the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions began, have you wanted to get your current [method from Q111] removed?	Yes	→150 →150
131	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you have wanted to get your method removed?	Yes	
132	What is the main reason why you have wanted your [method from Q111] removed?	COVID REASONS Concerned will be unable to remove later due to COVID government restrictions11  PREGNANCY RELATED/EXPIRED	<b>→</b> 137
		Wanted to get pregnant21 Method expired23  SIDE EFFECTS	<b>→</b> 137
		Amenorrhea	→137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137 →137
133	Has a provider counseled you to use another method until you are able to remove your [method from Q111] since your [method from Q111] is expired?	Yes	7137
134	Are you using another method in addition to your [method from Q111] since your [method from Q111] is expired?	Yes	<b>→</b> 136 <b>→</b> 137

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
135	Which method are you using in addition to your [method from Q111]?	Implant       1         IUD       2         Injectable - Intramuscular       3         Injectable - Subcutaneous       4         Pill       5         Emergency Contraception       6         Male Condom       7         Female Condom       8         Std. Days/Cycle beads       9         Rhythm method       10         Withdrawal       11         Other method       12	All →137
136	What is the main reason why you are not using another method in addition to your [method from Q111]?	No response	
137	Have you tried to have your [method from Q111] removed?	Yes	→139 →142

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
138	What is the main reason why you have not tried to have your [method from Q111] removed?	COVID REASONS Usual/other health facilities closed	All →142
139	Where did you go to remove your [method from Q111]?  Probe to identify the type of source	Public sector         11           Govt. Hospital/polyclinic.         12           Mobile clinic.         13           CHW         14           Community event.         15           Private medical sector         21           Private hospital/dinic.         21           Private doctor         22           Pharmacy         23           Chemical/drug store         24           Other source         31           Friend / relative         32           Self         40           Other         96           Don't know         -88           No response         -99	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
140	What is the main reason why you were	COVID REASONS	
	not able to have your [method from	Usual/other health facilities closed11	
	Q111] removed?	Usual/other health facilities not offering FP	
		services or no available provider12	
		Afraid of being infected with COVID13	
		Told that providers did not have enough	
		protective equipment to see clients during	
		COVID-1914	
		Provider thought I had COVID15	
		NON COVID PROVIDER REASONS	
		Provider did not have equipment or supplies	
		to remove the method21	
		Provider advised to keep method22	
		Provider tried but was unable to remove	
		method23	
		NON COVID REASONS	
		Changed my mind31	
		Partner wanted me to keep32	
		Did not have enough money33	
		Other96	
		Don't know88	
		No response99	
		No response99	
141	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Yes1	
	pandemic and the social restrictions	No	
	affect why you have not had your	Unsure 2	
	[method from Q111] removed?	No response99	
142	Do you still want to get your [method	Yes 1	→ ALL
	from Q111] removed?	No 0	150
		No response99	
143	At any time since the Coronavirus	Yes 1	
	(COVID-19) restrictions began, did	No0	→150
	you want to obtain a contraceptive method?	No response99	<b>→</b> 150
144	Have you tried to obtain a method?	Yes	<b>→</b> 146
	•	No 0	
		No response99	<b>→</b> 149

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
145	What is the main reason why you did not try to obtain a method?	COVID REASONS Usual/other places to get FP closed	AII → 149

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
146	Where did you go to obtain a method?	<u>Public sector</u>	
	Probe to identify the type of source	Govt. Hospital/polyclinic	
	Probe to identify the type of source	Mobile clinic	
		CHW 14	
		Community event15	
		Private medical sector	
		Private hospital/dinic	
		Private doctor	
		Pharmacy	
		Chemical/drug store24	
		Other source	
		Shop/market31	
		Friend / relative32	
		Delivered to my home40	
		Other96	
		Don't know88	
		No response99	
147	What is the main reason why you were	COVID REASONS	
	not able to obtain a method?	Not offering FP services or no available	
		provider11 Told that providers did not have enough	
		protective equipment to see clients during	
		COVID-1912	
		Provider thought I had COVID-1913	
		NON COVID PROVIDER REASONS	
		Method not available21	
		Method requires a prescription22	
		Provider did not have equipment or supplies to provide method23	
		Provider not trained to provide the method I	
		wanted24	
		Provider recommended a different method 25	
		Not eligible for method26	
		NON COVID REASONS	
		Changed my mind31	
		Did not have enough money32 I became pregnant33	
		Other96	
		Don't know88  No response99	
		No response	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
148	Did the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the social restrictions affect why you have not obtained a method?  Do you still want to obtain a	Yes	
	contraceptive method?	No	
150	We would like to understand what family planning services women like you may be interested in using on their own without seeing a provider or a Community Health Worker in person. For each of the following, how interested would you be to get instructions and materials to use it yourself?  Read items, one by one Read response options		
150A	<b>Pregnancy test</b> (Women can purchase a urine test to determine pregnancy from a pharmacy or drug shop or potentially online depending on the country)	Very interested1Fairly interested2Neither interested nor disinterested3Fairly disinterested4Very disinterested5No response-99	
150B	<b>Pregnancy checklist</b> (A series of questions to help confirm that you are not pregnant)	Very interested	
150C	Lactational amenorrhea method or LAM (Women who have just had a baby and meet three criteria are protected from pregnancy. Women must be exclusively breastfeeding, have not resumed menstruating, and are 6 months or less postpartum)	Very interested	
150D	Condoms	Very interested1Fairly interested2Neither interested nor disinterested3Fairly disinterested4Very disinterested5No response-99	

NO	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
150E	<b>Pill</b> (Women can take a pill every day to avoid becoming pregnant. Pills may be purchased at a pharmacy, drug shop, or online depending on the country.)	Very interested	
150F	Emergency contraception (As an emergency measure after unprotected sexual intercourse women can take special pills at any time within three to five days to prevent pregnancy. Pills may be purchased at a pharmacy, drug shop, or online depending on the country.)	Very interested1Fairly interested2Neither interested nor disinterested3Fairly disinterested4Very disinterested5No response-99	
150G	Subcutaneous Injectable (A contraceptive injection administered via a small needle that you could give yourself after a provider or CHW shows you how to do it. This is a much smaller needle than ones you may be familiar with that are used for other types of injectable contraceptives.)	Very interested	
150H	Standard days method (Cycle Beads) (A woman can use a string of colored beads to know the days she can get pregnant. On the days she can get pregnant, she and her partner use a condom or do not have sexual intercourse)	Very interested	
150I	Sometimes women experience side effects like changes in weight, mild nausea, headaches or fatigue when they use a family planning method. How interested would you be in receiving information on what to do if you experience side effects without seeing a provider or a CHW?	Very interested	
150J	Sometimes women experience changes in their period when they use a family planning method. How interested would you be in receiving information on what to do if you experience changes in your period without seeing a provider or a CHW?	Very interested1Fairly interested2Neither interested nor disinterested3Fairly disinterested4Very disinterested5No response-99	