

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/366

Subject: Responsibility for non-contraceptive IUD/coil Provision

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Whether patients seeking IUD/coil fitting for non-contraceptive medical purposes are expected, under local commissioning arrangements, to access this care via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. sexual health services b. GP services c. community gynaecology services d. secondary care gynaecology 	<p>IUCs (Intrauterine Contraception) should be inserted in primary care for both contraceptive and non-contraceptive reasons (including sexual health) unless there are specific medical issues preventing primary care to fit, or it is fitted as part of an operative procedure or termination of pregnancy.</p> <p>Yuno Sexual health (BNSSG's new sexual health service launched on 1st April 2025, Commissioned by the Local Authorities) cannot fit coils for purely non-contraceptive purposes. Referral to secondary care for Intrauterine Coil Insertion and Removal is subject to the Intrauterine Coil Insertion and Removal in Secondary Care Policy - Criteria Based Access.</p> <p>If a coil cannot be fitted in Primary Care for non-contraceptive reasons, the patient should be referred to the relevant Gynae clinic for the condition to be treated e.g. for hormone replacement therapy (HRT).</p> <p>The ICB does not currently have a commissioned community gynaecology service.</p>

<p>2. Any assessment, analysis or internal correspondence held by the ICB relating to the impact of this pathway on patient waiting times.</p>	<p>The ICB does not have any internal correspondence.</p> <p>The local Authorities, as part of their commissioning responsibilities, completed a 2023 report on LARC. Please contact the Local Authority directly for this information. As follows:</p> <p>Bristol City Council - https://www.bristol.gov.uk/data-protection-foi/freedom-of-information-foi</p> <p>North Somerset Council - https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/council-democracy/data-protection-freedom-information/freedom-information/about-freedom-information-foi</p> <p>South Gloucestershire Council - https://www.southglos.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/data-protection-and-freedom-of-information/making-a-freedom-of-information-request/</p>
<p>3. Any guidance provided to providers on referral routes for patients who are not eligible for contraception services due to lack of pregnancy risk</p> <p>Clarification received: Yes, to confirm, by “referral route” in Question 3 I am referring specifically to referral routes for non-contraceptive IUD/coil (LARC) fittings, in line with the rest of the questions in the request.</p>	<p>Non-contraceptive LARC fitting for patients who are not eligible for contraception services due to lack of pregnancy risk do not require referral as they are commissioned to be provided in general practice. Primary care clinicians have access to the BNSSG Remedy pages that offers advice, guidance and sign posting on referral routes if needed.</p> <p>Clinicians are also able to seek advice and guidance from the University Hospitals Bristol & Weston NHS Foundation Trust (Bristol site) in relation to LARC fitting.</p> <p>If a coil cannot be fitted in general practice for non-contraceptive reasons, the patient should be referred to the relevant Gynaecology clinic for the condition to be treated.</p>

4. Any reviews or discussions held by the ICB regarding access to IUDs/coils for non-contraceptive purposes.

Intrauterine Coil insertion and removal was discussed at the November 2025 Commissioning Policy Review Group meeting, please find a copy enclosed.

Please note that FOI requests and responses are publicly available and therefore personal information has been redacted. The ICB considers the names included in the enclosed document(s) to be personal information and therefore has applied a section 40 (Personal Information) exemption to this information.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 12 February 2026 and has been approved for release by David Jarrett, Chief Delivery Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.

	Item	Action
	[Redacted]	
02	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	[Redacted]
03	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	
04	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	
05	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	
06	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	[Redacted]

	Item	Action
	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	
09	<p>Intrauterine Coil insertion and removal in Secondary Care</p> <p>█ explained that the policy is unchanged.</p> <p>█ noted that BNSSG’s Sexual Health service had been reproced and asked whether they had been consulted on the new policy. █ advised that he was not aware that they had been. █ has been the liaison between providers and the team on this policy and so it would be prudent to check with her. █ suggested that a decision on whether to approve the policy should be held until there was clarification. █ was suggested as the appropriate contact at the provider – Youno.</p> <p>█ noted that not all GP practices provide this intervention. █ queried whether this was a commissioning gap and how patients at those practices should be managed. █ advised that the team were aware of this gap in provision, and suggested this would be covered in</p>	

	Item	Action
	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	
11	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	
	<p>[REDACTED]</p>	

[REDACTED]
Commissioning Policy Development Manager
21/11/2025