**Title:** Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Use in Postpartum Women

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**Purpose:** Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCS) are considered the most effective reversible methods of contraception by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).Our study evaluates LARC rates in postpartum women to 1) assess the frequency of use in our population and 2) identify racial differences that may exist. Through our findings, we hope to encourage LARC promotion among all races and mitigate any racial bias related to contraception use.

**Design Methods:** Chart reviews were conducted on all deliveries occurring in January 2019 at a local hospital in New Orleans, LA. Contraception initiated at discharge and contraception initiated within the 12-week postpartum period were documented among many other variables.

**Results:** Of the 286 deliveries that occurred in January 2019, ethnicity included: 66.4% black, 25.5% Caucasian, 8.0% Asian/other. Approximately 26.2% (n=75/286) received some form of contraception prior to discharge. Only 8.7% (n=25/286) of postpartum women received a LARC at that time (17 black, 5 Caucasian, 3 Asian/other).

Among those who did not receive any form of contraception prior to leaving the hospital (n=211), ethnicity included: 64% (n=135/211) black, 30% (n=63/211) Caucasian, and 5% (n=13/211) Asian/other.

Of note, an additional 21 patients did receive a LARC during their postpartum outpatient visits prior to 12 weeks from delivery. This brings the LARC use rate to a total of 16.1% in this total population of patients (n=46/286).

**Discussion:** Given the small sample size analyzed to date, it will be critical to continue evaluating deliveries before drawing any significant conclusions. Our analysis of the entirety of 2019 deliveries is underway. To date, our findings indicate LARC usage rates remain low despite their well-known efficacy. This pilot study also shows the urgent need to provide adequate counseling during the prenatal period to provide patients with adequate time for decision-making regarding their birth control choice. Assessment of the remainder of deliveries in 2019 will help us to identify additional trends by race as well as barriers that patients may perceive to obtaining contraception.