

Author's response to reviews

Title: Assessing regional differences in contraceptive discontinuation, failure and switching in Brazil

Authors:

Iuri C Leite (iuri@fiocruz.br)
Neeru Gupta (neeru.gupta@sympatico.ca)

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Author's response to reviews:

Please accept the attached revised manuscript, entitled "Assessing regional differences in contraceptive discontinuation, failure and switching in Brazil," for publication consideration as a research article in Reproductive Health.

We wish to thank the reviewers, Paula Bednarek and Jose Guilherme Cecatti, for their valuable comments on the earlier version of our manuscript. In response, we have made a number of revisions, including:

- The Introduction has been shortened and the number of references reduced (especially documents and books).
- The Methods section has been shortened, in particular the second and third paragraphs have been revised and merged.
- The definition of "traditional methods" has been placed in the Methods section, earlier in the text than before.
- A little more description has been added on the presumed influences of television programming on contraceptive use in the Brazilian context.
- We acknowledge that the categories for the response variable, which are based on self-reported reasons for non-use, are approximate and have better highlighted this in the text. In particular, the decision to lump selected different reasons in the fourth category was essentially to group together those not directly related to a given method.
- Figure 2 has been withdrawn.
- The units of analysis have been clarified in Tables 2 and 3.
- The previous "Annex Table" has been integrated into the Results section of the main text. Also, the meaning of the asterisk symbol in the table has been indicated.
- We recognize that that DHS data used here, while the most recent currently available for Brazil, may be considered somewhat 'old', and have explicitly acknowledged this in the Discussion.
- The format of the references has been revised to conform to the standard of this journal.

We thank you once again for your consideration of our manuscript.

Neeru Gupta & Iuri da Costa Leite
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