

FHI's QUICK REFERENCE CHART

for the Medical Eligibility Criteria of the WHO

to initiate the use of

Combined Oral Contraceptives (COC), Noristerat (NET-EN), Depo Provera (DMPA), Copper Intrauterine Devices (Cu-IUD)

		COC	NET-EN & DMPA	Cu-IUD
Age	Menarche to 39 years	Green	Green	Green
	40 years or more	Light Green	Green	Green
	Menarche to 17 years	Green	Light Green	Green
	18 years to 45 years	Green	Green	Green
	More than 45 years	Green	Light Green	Green
	Less than 20 years	Green	Green	Light Green
	20 years or more	Green	Green	Green
Nulliparous		Green	Green	Light Green
Breast-feeding	Less than 6 weeks postpartum	Red	Light Green	Green
	6 weeks to 6 months postpartum	Light Green	Green	Green
	6 months postpartum or more	Light Green	Green	Green
Smoking	Age < 35 years	Light Green	Green	Green
	Age ≥ 35 years, < 15 cig./day	Light Green	Green	Green
	Age ≥ 35 years, > 15 cig./day	Red	Green	Green
Hypertension	History of hypertension where blood pressure CANNOT be evaluated	Light Green	Green	Green
	Controlled & CAN be evaluated	Light Green	Green	Green
	Systolic 140 - 159 or Diastolic 90 - 99	Light Green	Green	Green
	Systolic ≥ 160 or Diastolic ≥ 100	Red	Light Green	Green
Headaches	Non migrainous. Mild or severe.	Light Green	Green	Green
	Migraine without focal neurologic symptoms less than 35 years old	Light Green	Green	Green
	35 years or older	Light Green	Green	Green
	Migraines with focal neurologic symptoms	Red	Light Green	Green
History of deep venous thrombosis	Red	Light Green	Green	
Superficial thrombophlebitis	Light Green	Green	Green	
Complicated valvular heart disease	Red	Light Green	Green	
Ischemic heart disease / stroke	Red	Light Green	Green	
Diabetes	Non-vascular disease	Light Green	Green	Green
	Vascular disease or diabetes of > 20 years	Red	Light Green	Green

		COC	NET-EN & DMPA	Cu-IUD
Known hyperlipidemias		Light Green	Light Green	Green
Cancers	Cervical	Light Green	Light Green	Red
	Endometrial or ovarian	Green	Green	Red
Breast disease	Undiagnosed mass	Light Green	Light Green	Green
	Family history of cancer	Green	Green	Green
	Current cancer	Red	Red	Green
Uterine fibroids		Green	Green	Light Green
Endometriosis		Green	Green	Light Green
Trophoblast disease		Green	Green	Red
Irregular menstruation without heavy bleeding		Green	Light Green	Green
Irregular menstruation with heavy or prolonged bleeding		Green	Light Green	Light Green
Unexplained vaginal bleeding		Light Green	Light Green	Red
Cirrhosis	Mild	Light Green	Light Green	Green
	Severe	Red	Light Green	Green
Current symptomatic gall bladder disease		Light Green	Light Green	Green
Cholestasis	Related to the pregnancy	Light Green	Light Green	Green
	Related to oral contraceptives	Light Green	Light Green	Green
Hepatitis	Active	Red	Light Green	Green
	The client is a carrier	Light Green	Light Green	Green
Liver tumors		Red	Light Green	Green
STI/PID	Current or within the last 3 months	Green	Green	Red
	Increased risk of STI	Green	Green	Light Green
HIV/AIDS		Green	Green	Light Green
Iron deficiency anaemia		Green	Green	Light Green
Malaria		Green	Green	Light Green
Non-pelvic tuberculosis		Green	Green	Light Green
Thyroid disease		Green	Green	Light Green
Use of:	Rifampicin, griseofulvin and some anticonvulsants	Light Green	Light Green	Green
	Other antibiotics	Green	Green	Green

Category 1 ■ There are no restrictions for use

Category 3 ■ Usually not recommended (unless more appropriate methods are not acceptable or accessible)

Category 2 ■ Generally use

Category 4 ■ The method should not be used

Source: Adapted from Improving Access to Quality Care in Family Planning: Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, second edition. World Health Organization, 2000. Printed with funds from USAID and developed by Family Health International.