

Male Contraceptives: A Future Where the Burden of Contraception Is Shared

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Dear Editor,

The rising population of the world has always led leaders to ponder the situation to have control of the stupendous rise of the population for many decades. Time and time again, strict laws have been imposed that were many a time even controversial for different groups of the community. Despite the fact that both men and women bear the weight of this problem, women are forced to abide by the strict laws pertaining to abortion or contraception (Chng, 1983). It was observed that even community pharmacists of Jordan had a relatively negative notion regarding male oral contraceptive pills (Barakat et al., 2022). Almost one-third of pharmacists were unaware of the presence of male contraceptives and half of them were not sure about the mechanism of action and the active ingredient involved. This illustrates the lack of awareness, knowledge, and motivation in the community. Community pharmacists are one of the more easily accessible health care providers who often provide free consultations, and their lack of awareness increases the hesitancy in males regarding the newer approaches to male contraception (Nazer & Tuffaha, 2017).

Many methods are underway to produce an effective contraception method for men as the cause of its rejection is cultural norms, side effects, and poor compliance. This scenario is quite comparable with developing countries also where even after decades of research, men still lack reliable and reversible methods of contraception. A very potential much-awaited intravascular device named RISUG (Reversible Inhibition of Sperm Under Guidance) is currently under trial (Khilwani et al., 2020). Many male contraceptives have given hope and failed; many are still waiting for the green flag from the authorities. The process of achieving effective male contraception has been quite a journey for decades but unfortunately, its downside has been the unexpected burden on women to be

responsible for their sexual behavior and being denied to choose to do what they want with their bodies. The world has seen constant debates on abortion laws and policies. It could be a better and fair debate if men can have an effective male contraceptive themselves.

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