**ENHANCED ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION SERVICE**

The Contraception Service in the Southern Trust supports individuals to make informed choices in relation to their contraceptive and sexual health needs. At our clinics service users can expect to receive reliable information on all available types of contraceptive methods. This includes Long Acting Reversible Contraception and emergency contraception. Clinics are currently located at Portadown Health and Care Centre, John Mitchel Place Newry, Mullinure Day Hospital Armagh and Brownlow Health Centre Craigavon. There is also a clinic located in CAH, where women with more complex health needs can be seen for the insertion of inter-uterine devices. Our service is available to both men and women, including young people under 16 years old.

The RQIA Report (RQIA 2013) into Sexual Health Services reviewed all Services which provide Sexual and reproductive Health Care in Northern Ireland. The Report highlighted that patient access to these services should be enhanced for some groups of Service Users. This included the following groups of people:

1. **Looked after young People:** This group was seen as a high risk group in terms of young girls becoming pregnant and being at significant risk of contracting Sexually Transmitted infections
2. **Traveller women.**
3. **Black and minority Ethnic groups.**

The Contraception Team, working in partnership with other services/agencies and taking into account available health care guidance, have identified other groups of people where enhanced access to the service would be appropriate and would help promote a better outcome for the service user. Leading on from this the team has produced a **PRIORITY LIST**. Those groups listed, will be, where possible, given enhanced access to the service. The service user will be placed onto the waiting list and then identified or assessed by staff as belonging to a priority group and coded as PL.

This priority list is not exhaustive and the service is always happy to consider individuals or groups of people where enhanced access to the Contraception service is appropriate.

**PRIORITY LIST**

* Looked After Young People
* Young People 18 years and under
* Service Users with an acute or long term health condition that requires the use of or cessation of contraception, including a female cancer diagnosis.
* Service Users who have been prescribed medication which may be detrimental to pregnancy, including Tertragenic medications such as Roaccutane used for acne, epilepsy medication and methotrexate
* Service Users with severe mental health diagnosis, including those currently in patient in hospital or under the care of the Primary Care Mental Health teams
* Service Users who have a moderate to severe Learning Difficulty, including those living within support accommodation
* Service Users living in refuges, including Women’s Aid
* Service Users born in East Timor/Timor-Lestee
* Service Users with Substance Misuse issues
* Sex Workers
* Service Users from the travelling community
* Service Users who are referred via the Northern Ireland New Entrants Services (NINES)
* Service Users who are referred via the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)
* Service Users referred from Early Medical Abortion clinic