

# Subdermal contraception

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Clinical lead for contraception

# Plan for the evening

- Refreshments
- Networking/meet the team
- Brief update
- Group discussion
- A nose around the department if you would like?

# Current issues

- Pending new FSRH guidance
- Recent clinical issues locally
- Commissioner requirement to hold LoC SDI
- New FSRH training routes/qualifications

# Contraceptive use

- The pill remains the most popular prescribed method in UK
- IUCs more popular than implants (worldwide)
- PHE Laser 2018- Devon:
  - Total prescribed LARC 74.5/1000 (compared with 49.5/1000 England and 64.4/1000 SW)

# Implant vs IUC

- Last 12m period we fitted:
  - 1,069 implants
  - 1,424 IUCs

IUDs particularly popular among young women

# History lesson

- Norplant- first used 1983 Finland- 6 rods LNG. UK license 1993- withdrawn 1999
- Jadelle- or Norplant 2. still used around world- 2 rods- LNG, 5yr licence
- Implanon- UK license 1999- etonogestrel
- Nexplanon emerged in 2010.



# What we do and why?





# Discussion

- Counselling?
- Consent- verbal/written?
- Where do we fit? Over triceps/biceps?
- Sterile/non touch?
- Do we drape?
- Pressure bandage?
- Longitudinal vs horizontal excision for removal

**ARM IN A MESS** Carer, 21, has had contraceptive implant 'lost' in her arm for **TWO YEARS** – after doctors tried three times to dig it out

Thousands of women fear for their fertility as popular arm implants go 'missing' inside their bodies

**IMPLANT AGONY** Woman, 21, rushed to surgery after her contraceptive implant moved from her arm to her **LUNG**

Birth control implant goes **MISSING** in young mum's arm for five months as doctors need an ultrasound to find it

# Problems

- Deep implants- care with refits
- Missing implants
- Post fit infection
- Tricky removals
- Broken implants
- Pregnancy with implant in situ
- Bleeding – how to manage



Case: missing implant and pregnancy

Case: broken implant

Case: infection in women with eczema- RP and JH

Case: implant non palpable immed fitted- HR

What constitutes a deep implant?

# Nexplanon Organisational Risk Assessment study

- Non-interventional, post-authorisation safety study
- 7,364 women in US between 2011-2017
- Published March 2018
- The incidence of deep implants in the study was **8.8 per 1000 insertions**

# Do implants move?

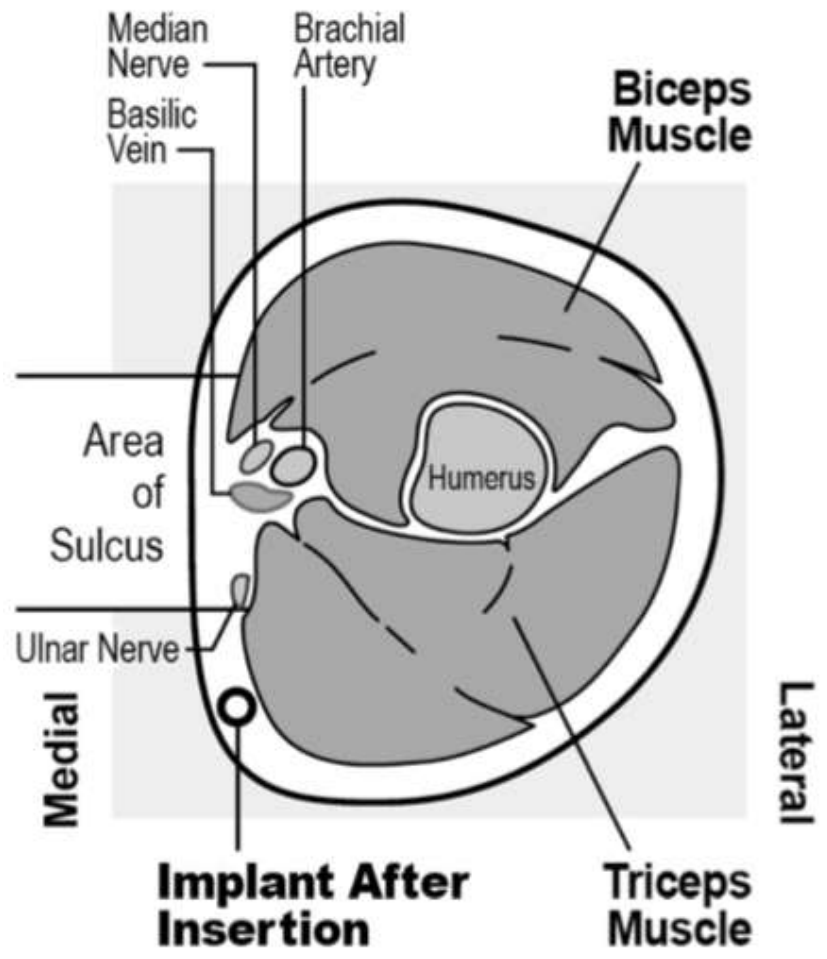
- Observational study - followed up 100 Implanon<sup>®</sup> insertions suggests - if inserted correctly, **migration of the implant from the insertion site is typically less than 2cm**
- Distant migration has also been reported...
- Data held by MSD -worldwide there is one case of intravascular migration for every 1.3 million implants sold. [ref MHRA]

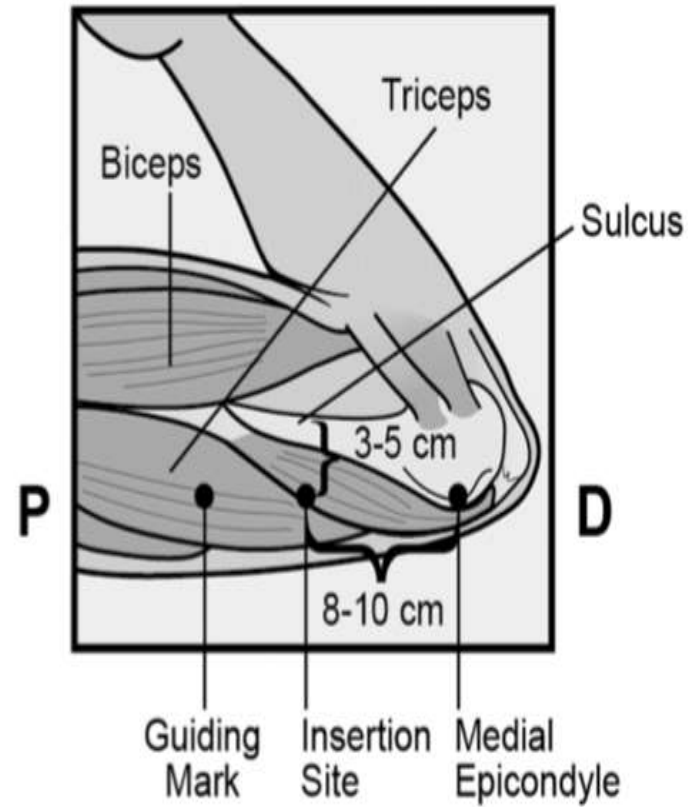
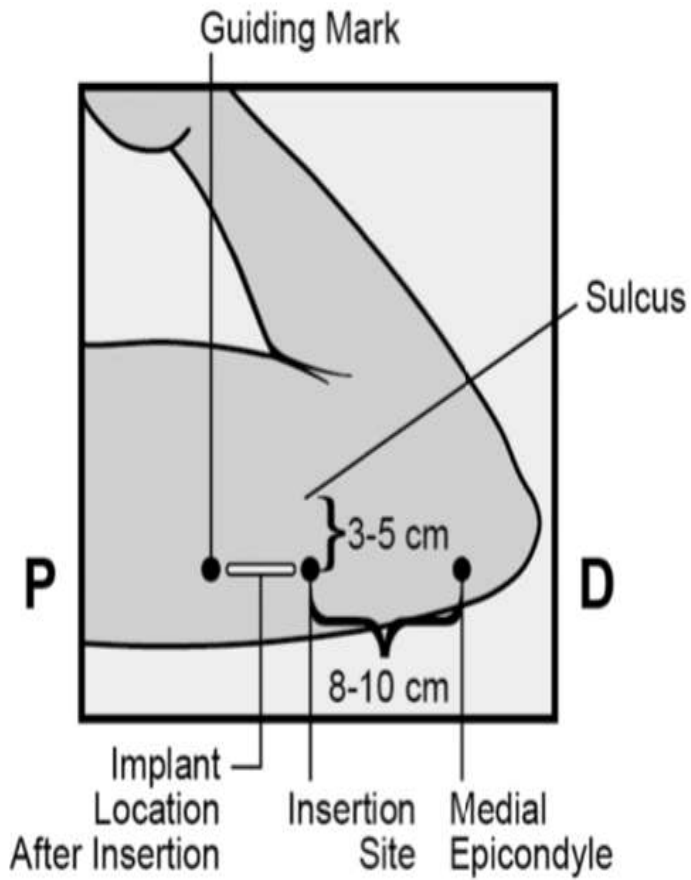
# FSRH guidance

- Pending changes to guidance
- To settle dispute between MSD and FSRH about fit site
- To bring in line with USA
- *Thank you FSRH for slides.....*

- Change in insertion site approved by FDA in US
- Still inner side of the non-dominant upper arm.
- But:  
insertion site is overlying the triceps muscle:
  - 8-10 cm (3-4 inches) from the med epicondyle
  - 3-5 cm (1.25-2 inches) posterior to the sulcus (groove)







# Proposed guidance

- *“FSRH CEU expects the MHRA to approve the new insertion site at the end of 2019 and will update FSRH guidance in line with this to avoid ongoing confusion.”*

# AVOID THE SULCUS

- Arm abducted to 90, elbow flexed and hand behind head (model pose)
- Evidence that the ulnar nerve moves anteriorly towards sulcus and away from insertion site when elbow flexed

# Allowed variations to practice:

- Consent- written or verbal
- Skin prep
- Use of sterile gloves for insertion or no touch
- Lidocaine 1% or 2%
- Whether to anaesthetise whole tract or not
- Type of scalpel
- Dressings- steristrips/waterproof/pressure
- Post op wound care

## Unacceptable not to:

- Gain and document verbal consent
- Use a sterile pack
- Mark skin for insertion
- Insert subdermally and at 30 degree angle
- Palpate implant after insertion
- Use sterile gloves for removal
- Remove through a longitudinal incision



# Changes to practice?

- Counsel about deep insertion
- Document implant palpated by both you and patient
- Advise report non palpable implant
- Longitudinal incision for removal
- Watch out for new guidance- change insertion site
- *DOCUMENT everything*



- Deep implant removal service:

CASH

Cumberland Centre

Damerel Close

Devonport

Plymouth

PL1 4JE

# LocSDI

- Info all on FSRH website
- Experienced fitter route but do still need to pass eka
- LocSDI IO -for midwives and abortion providers currently- 2019 pilot to remove the eka requirement and replace with an on line contraceptive counselling course.

May be opened to other HCPs but not to primary care providers

# Training

- DFSRH- about to change
- LocIUT- experienced fitter route
- FSRH Essentials course- for primary care HCPs- planned for Spring 2020 Exeter
- FSRH Essentials course for Midwives- pilot

# Working together



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# Thank you for coming