



Commission for Gender Equality

Commission for Gender Equality Public Education and Information Message on Access to Free Contraceptives and Family Planning Services in South Africa: A Shared Responsibility.

South Africa has a progressive framework for sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) that includes protections for LGBTQ+ individuals. The National Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Policy ensures access to inclusive healthcare services, covering contraception, fertility treatments, and safe abortion care. South Africa recognises sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) as part of its Constitutional right to healthcare. The government, through the Department of Health, offers free contraceptives, including condoms, injectables, Intrauterine Devices often called IUDs, and pills at public health facilities. However, despite these provisions, many still face challenges related to accessibility, education, and stigma. To gender diverse individuals your reproductive health matters. You have the right to make informed decisions about your body and your future. Contraceptive and family planning services in South Africa are designed to be inclusive, recognising the diverse identities and needs across the gender spectrum. Whether you are seeking short-term methods like condoms or pills, or long-acting options like injectables or IUDs, public clinics offer these services for free. Healthcare providers are expected to treat you with respect, dignity, and without judgment. Your identity should never be a barrier to accessing the care you deserve. If you experience discrimination or denial of care, know that this is not acceptable, and you have the right to report such incidents. Inclusive healthcare is not a privilege, it is your constitutional right.

The Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) is committed to advancing gender equality and protecting the sexual and reproductive health rights of all, including gender diverse persons. As a constitutional body, CGE holds institutions accountable, promotes policy reform, and works to eliminate systemic barriers that deny individuals access to quality, inclusive healthcare. Let us stand together for a South Africa where every person, regardless of gender identity or expression, can access reproductive healthcare with dignity and without fear. To lodge a gender-related complaint send an email to legal complaints on Gender-Enquiries@cge.org.za, download the complaint form from www.cge.org.za or visit or call the CGE office in your province. For more information on the CGE follow us on X: @CGE_ZA, Instagram: @cgelive and Facebook: Commission for Gender Equality.

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