

TABLE 5. Selected measures of emergency contraceptive pill provision practices in Barbados, according to type of health care provider

Measure	Total	Nurse	GP	Ob/gyn	Pharmacist
Had a previous experience where a woman asked for method*	87.9	80.0	86.9	83.3	93.2
Had ever prescribed/sold method***	78.5	42.9	84.0	83.3	89.0
Frequency of providing method in past year***,†					
Never	16.0	28.6	17.9	0.0	12.3
≤once a month	51.3	64.3	61.2	75.0	36.9
2–4 times a month	20.7	0.0	19.4	0.0	27.7
≥5 times a month	10.0	0.0	1.5	25.0	20.0
Don't remember	2.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	3.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Had ever refused to prescribe/sell method***	50.0	20.0	36.1	16.7	82.4
Reason for refusing to prescribe/sell method‡					
Client had contraindication to use§	27.3	42.9	36.7	100.0	19.7
Client had recently used method	25.3	28.6	23.3	0.0	26.2
Had concerns about method safety	34.3	28.6	20.0	0.0	42.6
Felt uncomfortable prescribing method	49.5	28.6	23.3	0.0	65.6
Method was not available	16.2	28.6	6.7	0.0	19.7
Religious/moral objection	19.2	0.0	6.7	0.0	27.9
Didn't know enough about method	6.1	14.3	3.3	0.0	6.6
Other reason††	69.7	57.1	70.0	100.0	70.5
Had an age restriction for use of method##	45.5	66.7	42.9	33.3	45.5
Mean age limit (range)##					
Lower	16.7 (12–21)	16.7 (16–18)	16.6 (12–21)	18§§	16.7 (14–20)
Upper	39.5 (30–55)	41 (40–45)	38.1 (30–45)	35§§	41 (30–55)

* $p < .05$, *** $p < .001$. †Among the 153 respondents who had ever provided the method (15 nurses, 68 general practitioners, five obstetrician-gynecologists and 65 pharmacists). ‡Among the 99 respondents who had refused to sell the method previously (seven nurses, 30 general practitioners, one obstetrician-gynecologist and 61 pharmacists). Because only one obstetrician-gynecologist had refused to provide the method, no statistical tests were conducted. §The most common were thromboembolic disease, cancer, migraines, cardiac problems and pregnancy, and that the provider suspected the woman was pregnant. ††The most frequently mentioned were the woman not having a prescription (26.3%), the woman requesting the method too late (i.e., when it was believed to be no longer effective; 23.2%) and the woman seemingly "abusing" the method (7.1%). ##Among the 127 respondents who had provided the method in the past year (nine nurses, 58 general practitioners, four obstetrician-gynecologists and 56 pharmacists). §Only one respondent reported having an age limit. Notes: Missing data are excluded. Statistical comparisons are across provider groups; for the frequency of provision measure, the comparison is across groups and all listed responses. GP=general practitioner. Ob/gyn=obstetrician-gynecologist.