

Nguyen BT, Jacobsohn TL. Men's willingness to use novel male contraception is linked to gender-equitable attitudes: results from an exploratory online survey. *Contraception*. 2023 Mar 14;110001. doi: 10.1016/j.contraception.2023.110001. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36924819.

Men's willingness to use novel male contraception is linked to gender-equitable attitudes: results from an exploratory online survey

[Brian T Nguyen](#)¹, [Tamar L Jacobsohn](#)²

Affiliations

- ¹The Lundquist Institute at Harbor UCLA Medical Center, Torrance, CA, USA; Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA.
- ²Contraceptive Development Program, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA.
- DOI: [10.1016/j.contraception.2023.110001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2023.110001)

Abstract

Objective: To explore the association of men's willingness to use a novel male contraceptive method with their attitudes toward gender equity.

Methods: We conducted an anonymous online survey examining willingness to use male contraception among reproductive age (18-50 years) cisgender men from the United States and Canada, recruited via online forums, social media ads, and male contraceptive mailing lists from April through July of 2022. The survey collected socio-demographics and reproductive histories and used a 20-item Gender Equitable Men Scale (GEMS) to examine men's gender role attitudes. We conducted bivariate analyses to inform a multivariable logistic regression isolating the independent influence of increasingly gender-equitable attitudes on cis-men's willingness to use novel male contraceptives.

Results: We received 2,066 surveys from primarily white (n=1,192; 58%), heterosexual (n=1,816; 88%), married cis-men, (n=1,008; 49%), below the age of 30 (n=1,010; 49%), and who had not completed a bachelor's degree (n=1,173; 57%). The majority reported having sex multiple times per week (n=946; 46%), but had never gotten someone pregnant, (n=907; 44%); nearly half (n=994; 48%) identified as parents. Approximately three-quarters of respondents reported being willing to use a novel male contraceptive method (n=1,545; 75%); willingness was independently linked to having had an abortion

(adjOR: 2.04; 95%CI: 1.37-3.02) and increasing total GEMS scores (adjOR: 1.05; 95%CI: 1.02-1.08), even after controlling for age, race/ethnicity, and education level.

Conclusions: About three-quarters of cis-men surveyed reported willingness to use new male contraceptives, which was correlated with increasingly gender-equitable attitudes.

Implications: As gender-equitable attitudes are linked to men's willingness to use novel male contraceptive methods, older population surveys may underestimate male contraceptive demand. Additionally, given the association of abortion experience with willingness to use novel male contraceptives, abortion-providing family planning clinics may be considered for future dissemination of male contraceptive methods.

Keywords: gender; gender equity; male contraception; masculinity; men's health; men's reproductive health.