

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT:

A Case Study of Same Visit Provision of Contraception at Louisiana Office of Public Health Rapides Parish Health Unit

Dr. David Holcombe, MD, MSA:

My name is Dr. David Holcombe, and I am the Regional Administrator and Medical Director for the Office of Public Health for Central Louisiana. About half of our entire regional population's found here in Rapides, so we see about 50,000 people here a year, and of that, we see at least 5,000 for reproductive health purposes.

Charlotte Amphion, RN:

On a daily basis, we have available to our clients the birth control pills, the Nuva ring, the patch, the Depo shot, IUDs, as well as the Nexplanon. On any particular day, when a patient comes in for reproductive health services, that person usually has the option to leave with birth control that day.

Dr. David Holcombe, MD, MSA:

The most common scenario is that people come in for their annual or preventive health visit, and if they express a desire for a LARC, a long-acting method, then we provide it the same day, because we know from studies that 30% of the women who are offered to come back to have it done at a later date will never show up again.

Cindy Griffin, APRN:

As we began to offer the same-day LARCs, there were changes that had to be made. Number one was what supplies were going to be needed on a daily basis in order to do this.

Dr. David Holcombe, MD, MSA:

The LARCs are actually stocked in the room itself, and then in a separate cabinet, we have a kit, and so it's just a question of taking the product, and then taking the kit, putting it on a tray, spreading it out, and doing the procedure. But it's all readily available. Second thing is that we used to schedule LARCs separately. Well, the problem was, with the no-show rates, that we would lose enormous amounts of time, so it became much more efficient to incorporate these things into our general scheduling.

Cindy Griffin, APRN:

The next thing is that you need to have a clinician that is comfortable putting in LARCs. When you've done it quite often, it goes fairly quickly, and you get a process that you can go with the patient, but you have to work at it.

Norma Porter, DNP:

On a daily basis, I see between 20 to 25 patients per day, and I'm able to put in, and I usually put in about three to four LARCs per day. And we have got it down to about ... Really, a procedure will only take about extra maybe 10 to 15 minutes.

Dr. David Holcombe, MD, MSA:

I think one of the most important things is your leadership has to be committed. They have to view this as a priority, and they have to demonstrate that to the staff, and actually bring them up to the level that they want to do this.

Norma Porter, DNP:

At the beginning, I really didn't ... I wasn't sure that we were going to be able to do this with as much ease as we do it now. It seemed like it was something that was going to be very difficult to do, because we had busy, hectic clinics, and I thought to myself that patients were going to be backed up. It was all these things like planning ahead, making sure supplies are there, making sure that the carts are filled before we even start the day. And by doing so, then it helps the flow of clinic, and now we've got it down to a charm.

Cindy Griffin, APRN:

For many patients, just the fact that they can walk in, be seen, and walk out the same day with it is amazing. You also have to consider that many of these women that we see work, and so if they have to take an extra day off to come back in to get that method, many times they can't get off, or they forget about their appointment. So they're very satisfied with that.

Yolanda Crawford:

When they come in here and we can offer them same-day service, and they can go home with it, I think it just makes a big difference to them and for us, and then they're going to spread the word around that you can go to the Health Unit and get same-day service.

Cindy Griffin, APRN:

Being able to give women a choice in the type of birth control that they want, when they want it, and in a setting in which they feel like there's no barriers, makes a huge difference in how women feel about themselves and their reproductive health.