Clearinghouse Connector – June 2017

Unplanned pregnancy

Links to online resources available from the Women’s Health Victoria Clearinghouse collection.

To access these resources follow the title hyperlink. The display includes a link to the external website where the full text is available.

We value your feedback. Please tell us what you think of this resource.
Click here to take a brief online survey

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Introduction

This Connector focuses on the experience of unplanned pregnancy in Australia and the resources available for women and health professionals to help navigate the decision-making process. For information on related topic areas such as abortion, medical abortion, long acting reversible contraception, please see previous Connectors, which can be found here.

Although there is surprisingly little information available about the prevalence of unintended pregnancy in Australia, it has been estimated that half of all pregnancies per year in Australia are unplanned. Outcomes for unplanned pregnancies include parenting, miscarriage, abortion and adoption, with parenting being the most likely outcome and adoption the least likely.

Factors influencing women’s decisions about whether or not to continue a pregnancy include the level of support they are likely to receive, the financial resources they have access to, and their own emotional readiness to become parents. Regardless of whether a woman decides to continue or terminate her pregnancy she will need access to appropriate, sensitive and non-judgmental supports and services.

WHV thanks the following expert reviewers for their input:

- Trish Hayes – Marie Stopes International Australia
- Kate Marsh – Children by Choice

Overview

Unplanned pregnancy in Australia Children by Choice, 2016
Incidence


**Unplanned pregnancy and abortion: what it means legally and socially** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

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**Current policy context**

**Women’s sexual and reproductive health: key priorities 2017–2020** Victoria. Department of Health and Human Services, 2017

**Don’t blame and shame women for unintended pregnancies** The Conversation, 2015

**Unplanned pregnancy and emergency contraception in Australia: unsolved dilemmas** Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 2014

**Policy solutions for preventing unplanned pregnancy** Brookings Institution, 2012 [U.S.]

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**Women’s experiences of unplanned pregnancy**

**Understanding women’s experiences of unplanned pregnancy and abortion: final report** Key Centre For Women’s Health In Society, 2009

**Stories from women: unplanned pregnancies** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**What women want: when faced with an unplanned pregnancy: key findings** Marie Stopes International, 2006

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**Decision making tools for women**

**Making a decision** Children by Choice, 2016

**For women: decision making as a couple** Children by Choice, 2016

**For men: decision making as a couple** Children by Choice, 2016

**Activities to help you: assessing your feelings and values** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**Pregnancy options counselling** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**About adoption or alternative care** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**Unplanned pregnancy and relationships** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**Unplanned pregnancies in violent or abusive relationships** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**Pregnancy as a result of sexual assault** Royal Women’s Hospital, 2011

**Unintended pregnancy: continuing a pregnancy** Family Planning NSW, 2015
Resources for health professionals

For professionals: supporting pregnant women Children by Choice, 2016

Unplanned pregnancy Family Planning Victoria, 2016

Decision-making concerning unwanted pregnancy in general practice Family Practice, 2014

Overview of unplanned pregnancy and abortion services in Victoria [Presentation] University of Melbourne. Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH), 2014

Contraceptive use at the time of unintended pregnancy: findings from the Contraceptive Use, Pregnancy Intention and Decisions study Australian Family Physician, 2016

Related websites

Family Planning Victoria

The Royal Women’s Hospital Unplanned pregnancy information

The Royal Women’s Hospital Activities and information for decision-making

Children by Choice

Footnotes


How our Clearinghouse can help you

Women’s Health Victoria’s Clearinghouse has a wealth of information on gender in health in various forms. Our experienced health and information professionals can assist you to access this information.

Feedback and subscription

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