

Access to Female Health Services

- Fieldwork dates: UK 29th July – 1st August 2020, India 31st July – 10th August 2020 and South Africa 1st – 11th August 2020
- All figures in percentages
- Base: 1000 women aged 16 – 50 in each of the 3 markets UK, India and South Africa
- Data have been weighted to the known offline population profile
- Interviews conducted online on the Ipsos Access Panel and partner panels
- An asterisk represents a percentage less than 0.5 but greater than 0
- Numbers may not always add up to 100% due to computer rounding or multiple answers

Q1A. Which of the following services, if any, do you think were available BEFORE the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK?

UK: Abortion services from an abortion clinic

South Africa: Abortion services from a private abortion clinic

India: Abortion/MTP (Medical Termination of Pregnancy) services from a doctor/ clinic

	UK	South Africa	India
This service was available BEFORE the COVID-19	811 (81%)	756 (76%)	612 (61%)
This service was NOT available BEFORE the COVID-	22 (2%)	34 (3%)	160 (16%)
I don't know if this service was available BEFORE the	149 (15%)	200 (20%)	177 (18%)
Prefer not to answer	17 (2%)	10 (1%)	51 (5%)

Q1b. Which of the following services, if any, do you think were available DURING the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK?

UK: Abortion services from an abortion clinic

South Africa: Abortion services from a private abortion clinic

India: Abortion/MTP (Medical Termination of Pregnancy) services from a doctor/ clinic

	UK	South Africa	India
This service was available DURING the COVID-19	207 (21%)	426 (43%)	441 (44%)
This service was NOT available DURING the COVID-	118 (12%)	72 (7%)	236 (24%)
I don't know if this service was available DURING the	660 (66%)	492 (49%)	272 (27%)
Prefer not to answer	16 (2%)	10 (1%)	51 (5%)

Q1b. Which of the following services, if any, do you think were available DURING the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK?

UK: Contraceptive services from the GP

	UK
This service was available DURING the COVID-19	460 (46%)
This service was NOT available DURING the COVID-	114 (11%)
I don't know if this service was available DURING the	413 (41%)
Prefer not to answer	13 (1%)

Q1b. Which of the following services, if any, do you think were available DURING the COVID-19 pandemic in the UK?

UK: Contraceptive services from pharmacies

	UK
This service was available DURING the COVID-19	483 (48%)
This service was NOT available DURING the COVID-	62 (6%)
I don't know if this service was available DURING the	444 (44%)
Prefer not to answer	11 (1%)

Q3. During the Covid-19 pandemic please say whether you believe the following services have been better, the same, or worse compared to before the pandemic? - Contraceptive products such as oral contraceptives, condoms, emergency contraceptives (morning-after pill) or contraceptive implants

UK: All who tried to access contraceptive services or products during the pandemic (UK n=200)

	UK
Better DURING the Covid-19 pandemic	9 (5%)
The same as before	102 (51%)
Worse DURING the Covid-19 pandemic	70 (35%)
Don't know	19 (9%)
Prefer not to answer	2 (1%)

Q8b. DURING the COVID-19 pandemic have you, or someone close to you, needed to use any of the following services, even if no attempt was made to use the service or the service wasn't available?

I had a need for this service or products DURING the Covid-19 pandemic

	India	UK
Advice on Contraceptives (e.g. advice on contraceptive implants emergency contraceptives and pregnancy testing and advice)	190 (19%)	41 (4%)
Contraceptive products such as oral contraceptives, condoms, emergency contraceptives (morning-after pill) or contraceptive implants	251 (25%)	239 (24%)
Menstrual health (period) products such as sanitary pads, cups, tampons, reusable pants, hot water bottles or painkillers	542 (54%)	338 (34%)
Abortion/MTP (Medical Termination of Pregnancy) services	131 (13%)	11 (1%)
Sexually transmitted infection testing or treatment services	95 (10%)	26 (3%)
HIV testing or treatment services	65 (6%)	7 (1%)

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Domestic abuse services	89 (9%)	9 (1%)
Other sexual, gynecological or women's health	23 (2%)	20 (2%)
None of these	213 (21%)	478 (48%)
Prefer not to answer	59 (6%)	15 (1%)

Q5a. Which, if any, of the following, have you experienced when seeking contraceptive services DURING the COVID-19 pandemic in?

BASE: All who tried to access contraceptive services or products during the pandemic (India n=297, South Africa n=356, UK n= 213)

	South Africa	India	UK
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I was scared to leave home for fear of catching Coronavirus	83 (26%)	71 (31%)	7 (3%)
I used a different method, because my preferred method was not available	50 (15%)	60 (26%)	
I accessed services online or over the telephone	37 (11%)	56 (24%)	102 (48%)
A different method of contraception was offered from what I wanted	50 (15%)	51 (22%)	14 (6%)
The clinics in my area were closed	59 (18%)	51 (22%)	19(9%)
No appointments were available at clinics in my area	32 (10%)	51 (22%)	30 (14%)
The contraception service and/or product I needed was not available	50 (15%)	45 (19%)	19 (9%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I needed to self-isolate	15 (5%)	45 (19%)	4 (2%)
I was not permitted to travel to a clinic outside of my area	40 (12%)	44 (19%)	6(3%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I was scared to leave home because of domestic abuse	10 (3%)	43 (18%)	1 (*)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I did not have means to travel	25 (8%)	42 (18%)	2 (1%)
The wait for an appointment in my area was 1 to 2 weeks	22 (7%)	40 (17%)	4 (2%)
I could not access services, medicines or contraceptives remotely (online / via postal or courier service)	38 (12%)	39 (17%)	9 (4%)

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The wait for an appointment in my area was 3 to 4 weeks	18 (6%)	36 (15%)	8 (4%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I needed to look after children or other dependents	34 (11%)	35 (15%)	4(2%)
I did not have enough money to pay for the prescription or product	65 (20%)	28 (12%)	2 (1%)
The wait for an appointment in my area was 5 or more weeks	8 (2%)	14 (6%)	
None of these	73 (23%)	8 (4%)	56 (26%)
Don't know	2(1%)	1 (*)	3 (1%)
Prefer not to answer	2 (1%)	4 (2%)	3 (1%)

Q5b. Which, if any, of the following, have you experienced when seeking abortion services DURING the COVID-19 pandemic in India?

BASE: All who tried to access abortion services or products during the pandemic (India n=95)

	India
The wait for an appointment in my area was 1 to 2 weeks	25 (30%)
The clinics in my area were closed	25 (30%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I needed to self-isolate	23 (28%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I needed to look after children or other dependents	20 (24%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I was scared to leave home for fear of catching Coronavirus	20 (24%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I did not have means to travel	19 (23%)
A face-to- face appointment was needed but I was unable to leave home to attend the appointment because I was scared to leave home because of domestic abuse	18 (21%)
I accessed services online or over the telephone	16 (20%)
I could not access services, medicines or contraceptives remotely (online / via postal or courier service)	13 (16%)

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I was not permitted to travel to a clinic outside of my area	13 (15%)
No appointments were available at clinics in my area	12 (15%)
I did not have enough money to pay for the prescription or product	12 (14%)
I could not access services, medicines or contraceptives remotely (online / via postal or courier service)	39 (17%)
The wait for an appointment in my area was 3 to 4 weeks	8 (10%)
The wait for an appointment in my area was 5 or more weeks	7 (9%)
None of these	1 (1%)
Don't know	* (*)
Prefer not to answer	* (*)

Q7. Which if any of the following do you feel could improve access to contraceptive services in your area over the next few months?

BASE: All women in the UK

	UK
Giving out longer supplies of pills or condoms (e.g. 6-months of oral pills instead of 3 months)	442 (44%)
More information on how to access this service remotely such as through an online provider	339 (34%)
Free access to emergency contraception (morning after pill) at pharmacies	332 (33%)
Easier access to free short-term contraception at pharmacies, such as removing the need for a prescription to access a contraceptive service at pharmacies	309 (31%)
More information on where I could get this service	258 (26%)
Longer opening hours	209 (21%)
More appointments for this service	199 (20%)
Other (please specify)	13 (1%)
I feel there is no need to improve the access to this service in my area over the next few months	135 (13%)
Don't know	176 (18%)



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