

# Patterns and Determinants of Use of Oral Contraceptives in the European Union (Use of OC in the EU)

**First published:** 17/08/2012

**Last updated:** 23/04/2024

Study

Finalised

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS2738

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### Study ID

20752

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### DARWIN EU® study

No

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### Study countries

☐ Italy

☐ Netherlands

☐ United Kingdom

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## Study description

The study aims to set the basis for future safety evaluations of oral contraceptive use in Europe, by assessing current user and treatment characteristics in daily practice in five European databases from the Netherlands, UK and Italy, capturing a source population of 25 million individuals. Specific study objectives are to assess among women using oral contraceptive in 2009 and 2010 in different countries in Europe: prevalence and incidence estimates, demographics, health indicators and morbidity and OC treatment characteristics.

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## Study status

Finalised

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

[Erasmus Medical Centre Rotterdam](#)

**First published:** 01/02/2024

**Last updated:** 01/02/2024

**Institution**

[The PHARMO Institute for Drug Outcomes Research \(PHARMO Institute\)](#)

☐ Netherlands

**First published:** 07/01/2022

**Last updated:** 24/07/2024

**Institution**

**Laboratory/Research/Testing facility**

**ENCePP partner**

Synapse Research Management Partners, S.L.  
Barcelona, Spain, Agenzia regionale di sanità della  
Toscana Firenze, Italy, Università degli Studi di  
Milano-Bicocca Milano, Italy, EMC Rotterdam, Dept  
of Medical Informatics Rotterdam, the Netherlands

## Networks

### EU-ADR Alliance

**First published:** 01/02/2024

**Last updated:** 01/02/2024

**Network**

## Contact details

### Study institution contact

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**Study contact**

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**Primary lead investigator**

Miriam Sturkenboom

**Primary lead investigator**

## Study timelines

**Date when funding contract was signed**

Actual: 02/12/2011

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**Study start date**

Planned: 22/08/2012

Actual: 20/08/2012

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**Data analysis start date**

Planned: 22/08/2012

Actual: 20/08/2012

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**Date of interim report, if expected**

Planned: 25/10/2012

Actual: 25/10/2012

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**Date of final study report**

Planned: 02/01/2013

Actual: 17/01/2013

## Sources of funding

- EMA

## Study protocol

[D1.b\\_Final Study Protocol\\_v1.0 \(OC\).pdf](#)(1.07 MB)

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

Yes

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**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

### Study type list

**Study topic:**

Human medicinal product

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**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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**Scope of the study:**

Drug utilisation

### **Data collection methods:**

Secondary use of data

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### **Main study objective:**

Specific study objectives are to assess among women using oral contraceptive in 2009 and 2010 in different countries in Europe:- prevalence estimates (users on January 1, 2010)- incidence estimates (new users per year)- demographics- health indicators and morbidity- treatment characteristics

## Study Design

### **Non-interventional study design**

Cohort

Cross-sectional

## Study drug and medical condition

### **Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) code**

(G03AA) Progestogens and estrogens, fixed combinations

Progestogens and estrogens, fixed combinations

(G03AB) Progestogens and estrogens, sequential preparations

Progestogens and estrogens, sequential preparations

(G03AC) Progestogens

Progestogens

## Population studied

## Short description of the study population

All women in the database any time in 2009 or 2010, and who have at least one year follow-up in the database.

All women with a prescription (IPCI, THIN) or dispensing (PHARMO, SISR-T, SISR-L) of oral contraceptives during study follow-up were selected as users.

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## Age groups

Children (2 to < 12 years)

Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

Adults (46 to < 65 years)

Adults (65 to < 75 years)

Adults (75 to < 85 years)

Adults (85 years and over)

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## Estimated number of subjects

1500000

# Study design details

## Data analysis plan

Descriptive statistics will include proportions, mean and standard deviations (sd), median and interquartile ranges (IQR) of the aggregated datasets.

Incidence and prevalence will be presented for the pooled dataset as well as for the individual datasets. Population and treatment characteristics will be presented for the individual datasets. Stratified analysis will be performed per database and separately for incident and prevalent users. In addition, analysis will be performed by age category and presented in strata if needed.

# Documents

## Study results

[EMA OC. Del 2.b\\_Final.pdf](#)(1.5 MB)

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## Study, other information

[Note on data collection timelines.pdf](#)(170.97 KB)

# Data management

## ENCEPP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

This study has been awarded the ENCePP seal

## Conflicts of interest of investigators

[2012-0012-Dol-SDPP-2738.pdf](#)(821.1 KB)

[ENCEPPDolForm\\_EMCKV.pdf](#)(269.92 KB)

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## Composition of steering group and observers

[Participants in OC.pdf](#)(260.6 KB)

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## Signed code of conduct

[2012-0012-DoC CoC-SDPP-2738.pdf](#)(42.2 KB)

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## Signed code of conduct checklist

[2012-0012-Checklist CoC-SDPP-2738.pdf](#)(497.3 KB)

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## Signed checklist for study protocols

[2012-0012-Checklist Protocol-SDPP-2738.pdf](#)(265.46 KB)

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## Data sources

### Data source(s)

THIN® (The Health Improvement Network®)

Integrated Primary Care Information (IPCI)

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### Data source(s), other

THIN, IPCI

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### Data sources (types)

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

[Drug dispensing/prescription data](#)

[Electronic healthcare records \(EHR\)](#)

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

### CDM mapping

No

## Data quality specifications

### Check conformance

Unknown

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**Check completeness**

Unknown

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**Check stability**

Unknown

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**Check logical consistency**

Unknown

Data characterisation

**Data characterisation conducted**

Unknown