Reply
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the letter from Dr Elena Valarche on ovarian cysts and the levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system (LNG-IUS) (Mirena®).

Based on the evidence, Faculty of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care Guidance on 'Emergency contraception' (April 2006) issue is comprehensive, and does provide sound practical guidance on the subject. It is surprising that no mention is made that the levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system (LNG-IUS) is not licensed and not suitable for emergency contraception. It would have been appropriate to emphasise that there is no research evidence available on the effectiveness of the LNG-IUS for use for emergency contraception.

R K Bhathena, MD, FRCOG
Consultant, Petit Parcure General and Masina Hospitals, B Petit Road, Cambella Hill, Bombay 36, India. E-mail: rkbhathena@hotmail.com

Emergency contraception and the LNG-IUS
The Faculty Guidance document from the CEU on 'Emergency contraception' (April 2006 issue) is comprehensive, and does provide sound practical guidance on the subject. It is surprising that no mention is made that the levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system (LNG-IUS) is not licensed and not suitable for emergency contraception. It would have been appropriate to emphasise that there is no research evidence available on the effectiveness of the LNG-IUS for use for emergency contraception.

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Consultant, Petit Parcure General and Masina Hospitals, B Petit Road, Cambella Hill, Bombay 36, India. E-mail: rkbhathena@hotmail.com

References

CEU Guidance on emergency contraception
Clearly the 'CEU Guidance' series has established itself as the final arbiter in 'small print' contraceptive advice in the UK today. I found the recent summary on emergency contraception both timely and comprehensive. However, there are three points I would like to take issue with, two of which have considerable bearing on the subject.
CEU Guidance on emergency contraception

Terry McCarthy

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