acute Trust for removal, where they still re-
erilise instruments.

Do the authors know of a source for the
correct ... all letters. Letters may be submitted to the
Editor or the Journal Editorial Office (details on
page 205).

difficult, however we have good news.

sectors in England. Finding manufacturers who
aimed at improving the quality of surgical
result of new NHS guidance on decontamination
which 7282 were Dalkon Shields. There were
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Underuse of the IUD

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Every device fitted and every subsequent patient visit was recorded and sent to Exeter. In 1977, over 40 000 fittings had been recorded, of which 7282 were Dalkon Shields. There were only two cases of pelvic infection and both were cases known to me in Glasgow: one in a prostitute with gonorrhoea and the other in a woman who had tried to abort herself with a knitting needle. As a direct result of organised adverse publicity, the manufacturers of the Dalkon Shield went out of business and the reputation of all IUDs worldwide suffered a slump from which it has never recovered. A similar campaign, against Depo-Provera was mounted from the USA in the early 1980s and injectable methods never acquired the popularity they deserved for commercial reasons. Women are ill-served by ‘market forces’.

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Reference

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Nurse IUD fitting

Wendy Moore

*J Fam Plann Reprod Health Care* 2008 34: 274
doi: 10.1783/147118908786000433

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