

FCMi Guidelines and Disclaimer

May 2014

1. Introduction

This document outlines the rationale for the creation of the FCMi and outlines what visitors should and should not expect from the website. Please note that the document has been reviewed by our legal advisors.

2. FCMi Guidelines

a. FCMi

FCMi is maintained by i+solutions, a member of the Universal Access to Female Condoms Joint Programme (UAFC). The other UAFC members are Oxfam Novib, Rutgers WPF and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

UAFC was founded in 2009 with the aim of making female condoms accessible, affordable and available for all. In the programme, the four partners combine their expertise to address the main barriers to access to female condoms, namely high procurement prices, lack of competition in the female condom market (and the subsequent lack of variety), and lack of comprehensive female condom programming in many countries. Three mutually reinforcing components form the basis of the programme:

- Manufacturing and regulatory support
- Large scale country programming
- International and in-country advocacy, linking & learning, and communication

In order to fulfil its role of increasing awareness of the full range of female condoms either on the market or in the advanced stages of development, i+solutions has developed a website – FCMi (Female Condom Market Intelligence) – to share female condom market intelligence to a broad audience, but particularly those involved in the procurement and supply of female condoms. By sharing product information, supplier profiles and information related to the procurement of female condoms, FCMi helps increase the market knowledge of visitors. Critically, FCMi aims to do this in an impartial manner and simply aims to equip visitors with the necessary knowledge and information for them to make properly-informed procurement decisions, for instance.

b. How was FCMi Created?

i+solutions began developing FCMi in September 2013. The basis for the site was the Female Condom Product Brief, released by UAFC in September 2013, which provides information on the range of female condoms either on the market or in the advanced stages of product development. The creation of FCMi has enabled i+solutions to transfer this 'static' document to a 'dynamic' web-based platform, which can be easily-accessed and easily updated when product or company information changes.

The FCMi's Product Briefs therefore form a key component of the website and represent the next stage in the development of the original UAFC Product Brief. As FCMi has been developed, additional content has also been developed including the FCMi Company Profiles; the FCMi Interactive Map; the FCMi Indicative Price Index; the FCMi Procurement Guide and the Female Condom Product History. Additionally, FCMi also shares information on the UAFC Functionality Studies and also shares links to resources and organisations relevant to the procurement and supply of female condoms.

c. Target Group

As mentioned above FCMi's key target group in those involved in the supply and procurement of female condoms particularly female condoms buyers. FCMi seeks to inform visitors on the range of female condoms on the market or in the advanced stages of product development. It is UAFC's and FCMi's intention to contribute to a market in which a variety of quality-assured female condoms are available at affordable prices. A key to achieving this goal is to stimulate competition, especially for WHO/UNFPA prequalified female condoms. FCMi contributes to this goal by giving a voice to all quality-assured female condom products and producers and also be making clear to potential new entrants that this is a growing market and one which contributes to improved sexual and reproductive health.

d. Information Sources

As mentioned above, the basis for the website was the Female Condom Product Brief developed with i+solutions in collaboration with its partners. For additional information, FCMi has mined publically available information, e.g. company websites, publications and articles, online databases, e.g. the RHInterchange, and also information directly provided to FCMi by female condom producers themselves which is only genuinely public information. FCMi has sought and will seek to only provide verified information and aims to prevent the sharing of inaccurate information.

e. The Review Process

As FCMi seeks to become the 'mouth piece' of the female condom market, we are dependent on the commitment of the full range of those involved in the procurement and supply of female condoms to engage with FCMi and also use the site as a platform to share critical information with their fellow stakeholders. These include suppliers, buyers, donors and advocacy organisations. Before FCMi's launch, we therefore shared the draft website with all suppliers featured on the site and also other key stakeholders, including USAID, UNFPA, the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition and also

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internal UAFC stakeholders. This review process has enabled these key stakeholders to not only provide feedback and suggestions to the site but also to correct any inaccuracies. FCMi received feedback from the majority of recipients and all but one of the suppliers.

Once launched, FCMi intends the review process to be ongoing and will encourage stakeholders to maintain open dialogue with us to ensure the most up-to-date and most accurate information is shared at any given time.

f. Impartiality and Independence

FCMi does not seek to promote any particular product, rather seeks to promote the market as a whole. As mentioned above, it is FCMi's intention to contribute to a market in which a variety of quality-assured female condoms are available at affordable prices. It therefore seeks to provide information on all quality assured female condoms on the market or female condoms in the advanced stages of product development. Where possible, FCMi strives to provide a similar level of information for all products and companies, however in order to achieve this we are dependent on available genuinely public information and the information provided by the suppliers themselves.

g. Quality and Usage

FCMi seeks to only profile quality-assured products for those that are on the market. This means those that are WHO/UNFPA prequalified, USFDA approved, hold CE marking or have been approved by a recognised national or local regulatory authority. In terms of usage, FCMi cannot be held responsible for any quality issues related to the usage of female condoms – see below disclaimer.

h. Notice-and-take-down

In the event that information regarding your company may be incorrect, please contact us. In the event such concerns are in the opinion of FCMi to be found reasonable and justified, FCMi will agree to remove the content in question either permanently or until it can be replaced with amended content which is acceptable to FCMi and your company.

i. Summary of FCMi Guidelines

FCMi seeks to contribute to a market in which a variety of quality-assured female condoms are available at affordable prices. FCMi does not represent a particular female condom product/s or supplier/s but simply aims to enhance the market knowledge of visitors, particular those involved in the procurement of female condoms.

In this spirit, FCMi does not foresee the potentially for conflict with any stakeholder but in order to prevent such a scenario, the following disclaimer has been put in place, which has been reviewed by our legal advisors.

4. FCMi Disclaimer

FCMi is a guidance and reference tool, especially for those involved in the procurement and supply of female condoms. Information has been gathered from publically available sources, e.g. company websites, articles and publications and from female condoms suppliers themselves. It is however crucial that any purchaser of female condoms verify prices and availability as well as quality status directly with the supplier before procurement. FCMi has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of prices and other information presented on the website but FCMi makes no representations or warranties, either expressed or implied, as to their accuracy, completeness or fitness for a particular purpose. The information can be changed from time to time. Inclusion of a product in this document does not indicate FCMi/i+solutions/UAFC purchases or uses the product. Information on patent status of the products mentioned in this guide is indicative only and not exhaustive, and should be verified with relevant national patent offices when used for other than reasons of general information. Finally, as mentioned above, FCMi is a market intelligence tool targeted at those involved in supply chain management; users or potential users of female condoms should not use FCMi to determine which female condom to use or which female condom best suits their needs.