

Research Needs for Contraceptive Technology Development

Laneta Dorflinger, PhD
Family Health International
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

Kampala, Uganda November 16, 2009

IMPROVING LIVES
WORLDWIDE



Goals of this presentation

Provide an overview of contraceptive technology development

Setting the stage for other sessions and presentations

- Review why additional technologies are needed
- Stages of product development
- New technologies closer to reality
- What could be game changing contraceptive technologies (longer time frame)

Why do we need more technology?

Existing methods do not meet the needs of all

- Some are difficult to use consistently and correctly
- High typical use failure rates of temporary methods
- Side effects or fear of side effects
- High discontinuation of temporary methods
- Changing needs and desires over reproductive lifespan

High percent of non-use

High unmet need

Target qualities for new contraceptive methods

Highly effective in typical use

- User-independent
- Forgiving of misuse

Safe and Acceptable

- Minimal side effects or have “desirable” side effects (e.g. amenorrhea)
- Rapidly reversible
- Convenient and easy to use
- Use in chronic disease states

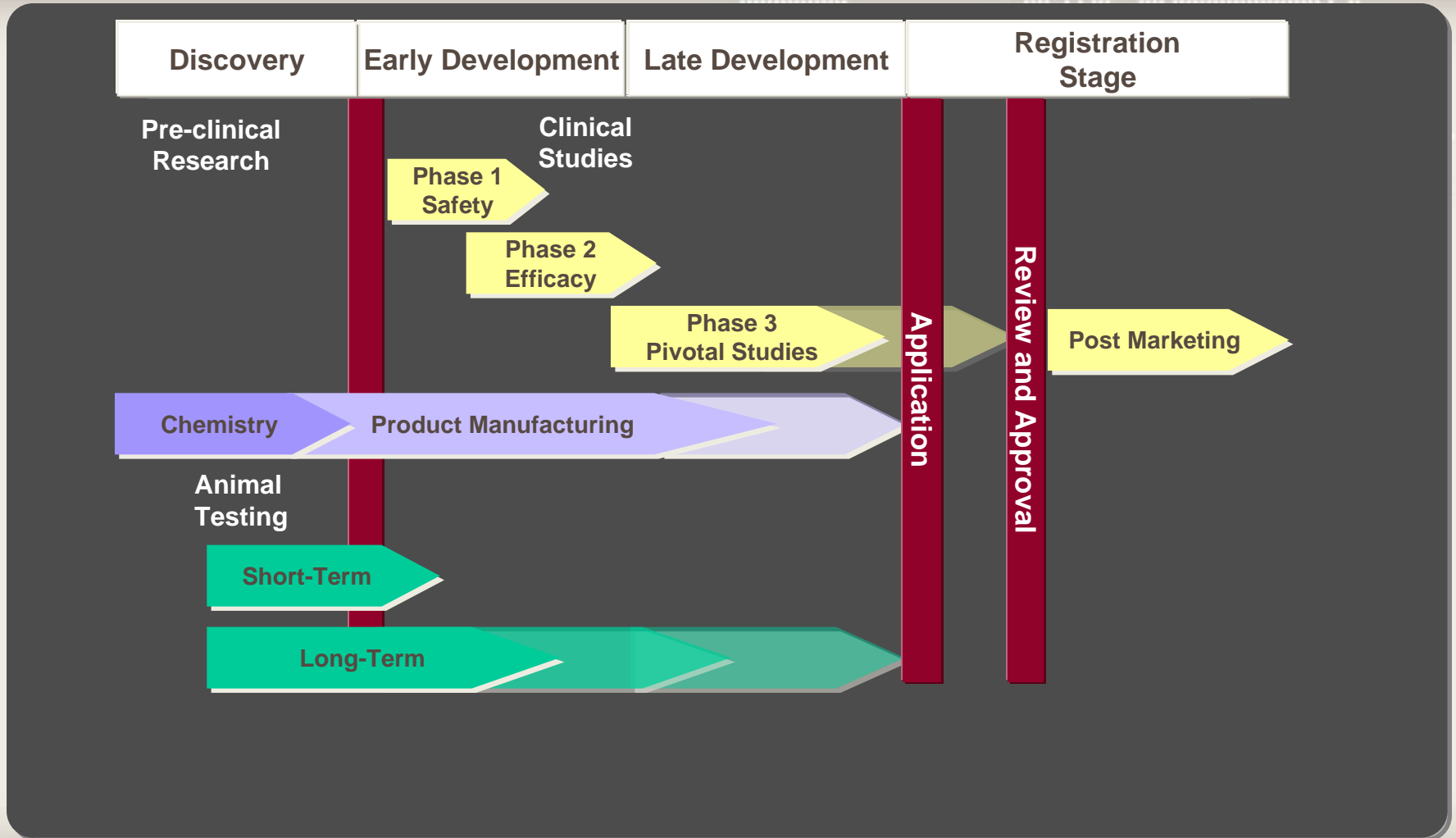
Provide additional health benefits

Very low cost

Potential for wide availability

- Provided by CHWs or provider independent

Stages of Product Development



Improving upon existing methods

Less expensive (“generic” or “alternative”)

Implant systems

Levonorgestrel IUS

Easier to use in a compliant way

Vaginal rings

Easier to deliver in service settings

Preloaded injectable systems (Depo SC in Uniject)

Biodegradable implants

New barrier devices – dual purpose

One size diaphragm – SILCS

New methods that could be game changers

Non-surgical sterilization

Male methods that are practical

Peri-coital method

Immuno-contraception (women and men)

Non-condom approaches for dual protection

Novel and/or non-hormonal contraceptives (daily or long-acting)

Method with non-contraceptive health benefits

Conclusions

- Women in developing countries need broad access to current, highly effective contraceptive methods
- New technology
 - could have substantial positive impact for women and men globally
 - is long and costly process
- Hope to see a renewed commitment by donors and the commercial sector - perhaps through partnerships

Advertisements

- Two sessions on contraceptive technology - Monday
 - E1 (9:30 to 11:00)
 - E2 (11:30 to 1:00)
 - Jeff Spieler will wrap up and present some new technologies
- Round tables
 - Gates Foundation on Grand Challenge Grants – Table 36 on Tuesday (Fil Randazzo – Tuesday)
 - Contraceptive Technology Café - Tuesday