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EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION: CURRENT EVIDENCE AND FUTURE DIRECTION

FROM EVIDENCE TO ACTION : ENHANCING EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION FOR GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY

AUTHOR: DR MANIZA KHAN, SPECIALIST, ASGAR ALI HOSPITAL, JUNE 2025



INTRODUCTION

Emergency contraception serves as a crucial safety net for women after unprotected sex, contraceptive failure, or sexual assault. Its primary aim is to prevent unintended pregnancies, a significant public health issue with extensive social and economic consequences. While it is a short-term solution, emergency contraception significantly reduces unsafe abortions and maternal health risks, particularly in low and middle-income countries.

There are three main methods of emergency contraception:

Levonorgestrel (LNG)

Ulipristal Acetate (UPA)

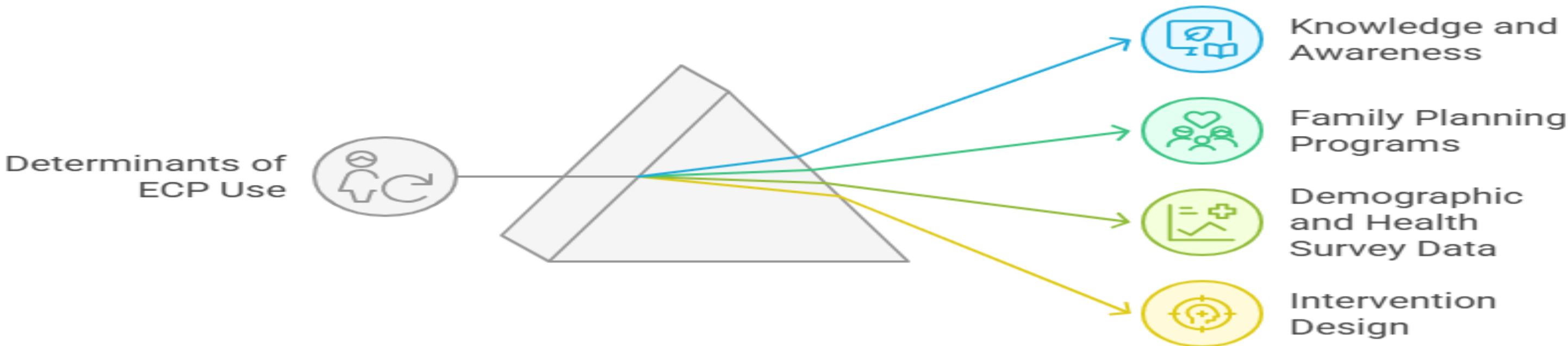
Copper IUD

However, accessibility, education, and socio-cultural barriers continue to hinder the full potential of emergency contraception globally.

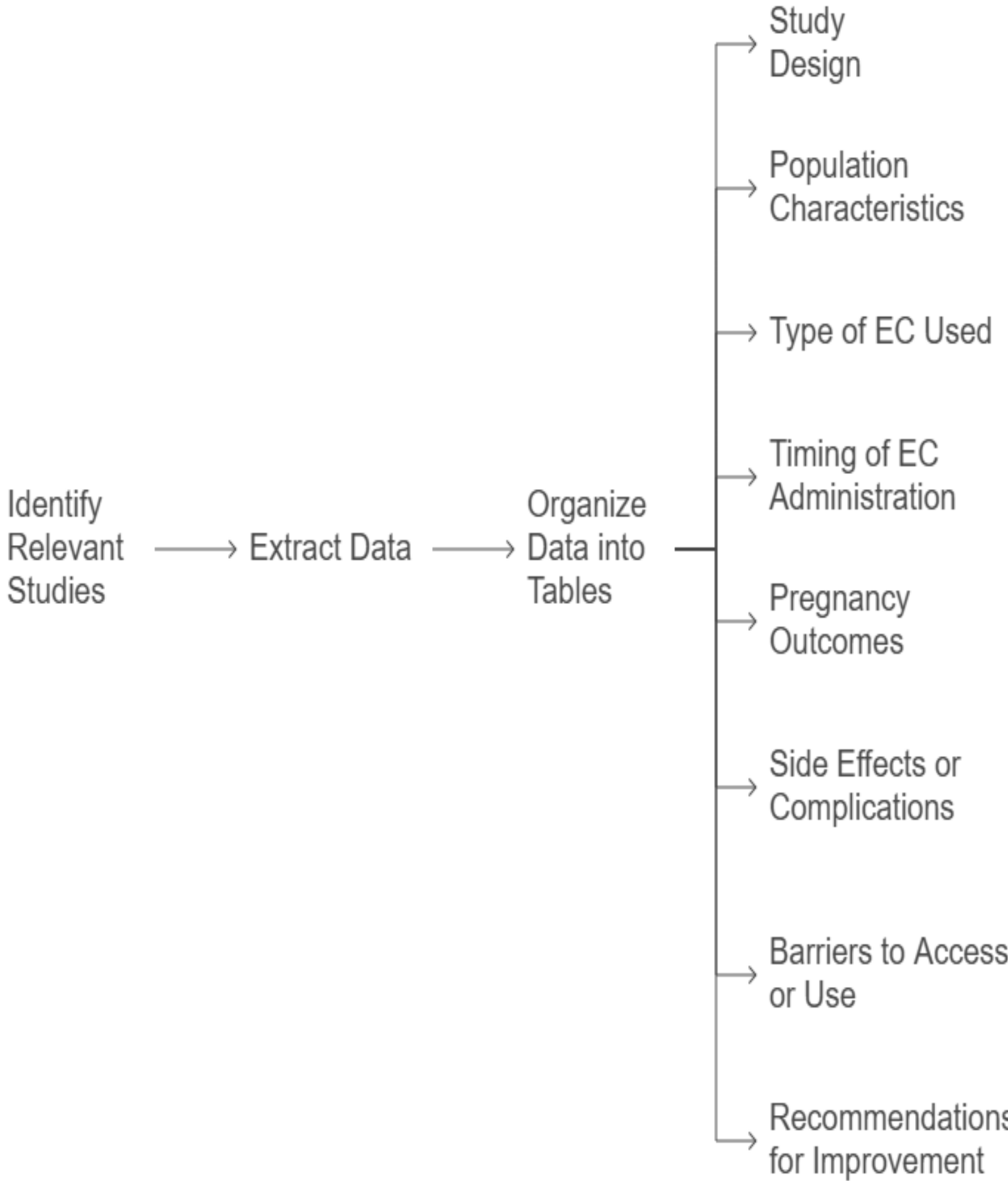
Emergency Contraception Methods Comparison

Characteristic	LNG	UPA	Copper IUD	New EC Pills
Efficacy	Highly efficient	Highly efficient	Highly efficient	Under investigation
Dosage Adjustment for Overweight/Obese	Increased dosage being studied	More trials needed	Not applicable	Dosage adjustments being researched
Availability	Currently available	Currently available	Currently available	Not yet available
Effective Time Window	Up to 5 days	Up to 5 days	N/A	Up to 7-10 days (potential)

Unveiling Factors Influencing ECP Use in Bangladesh



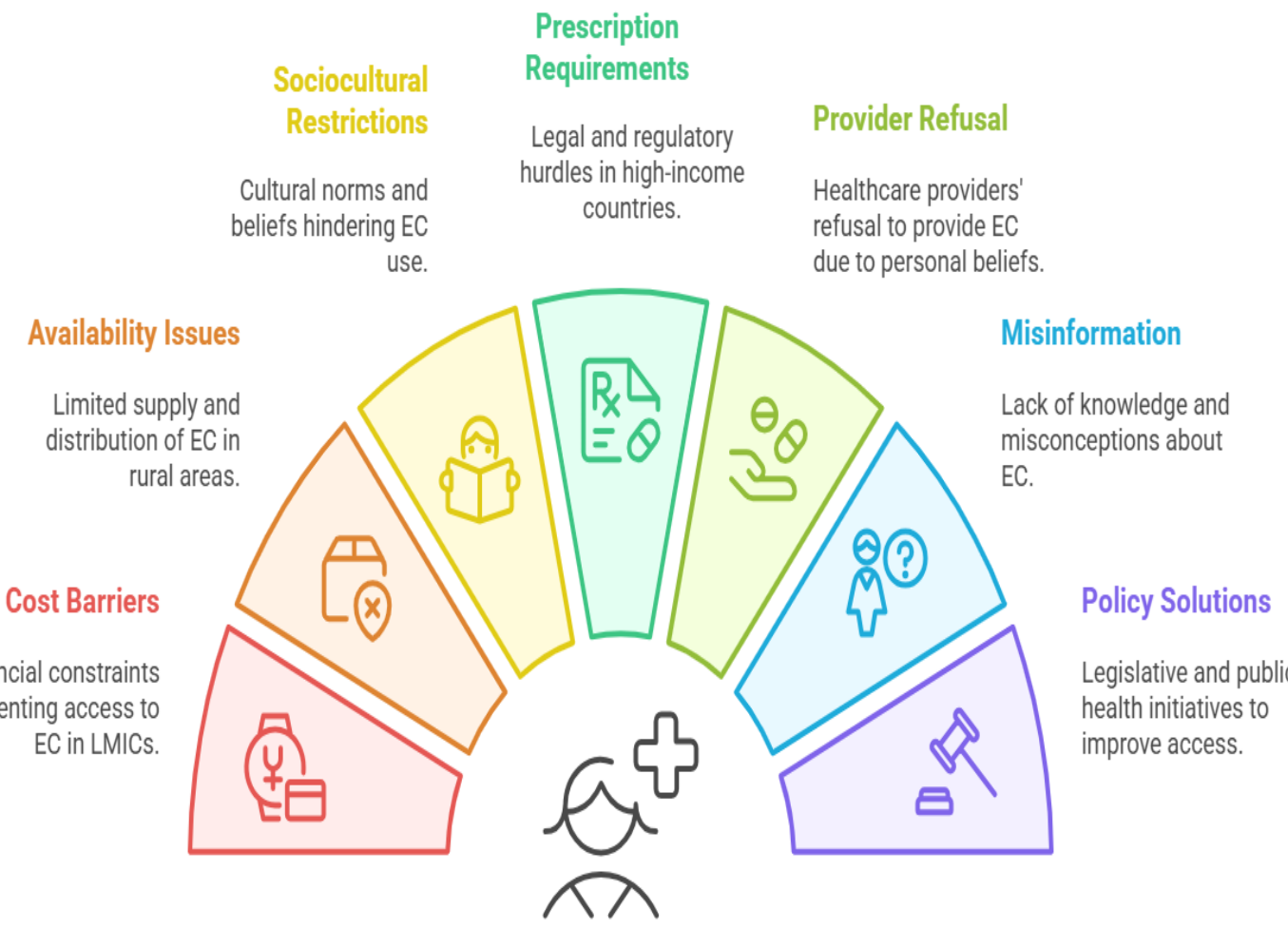
Data Extraction Process



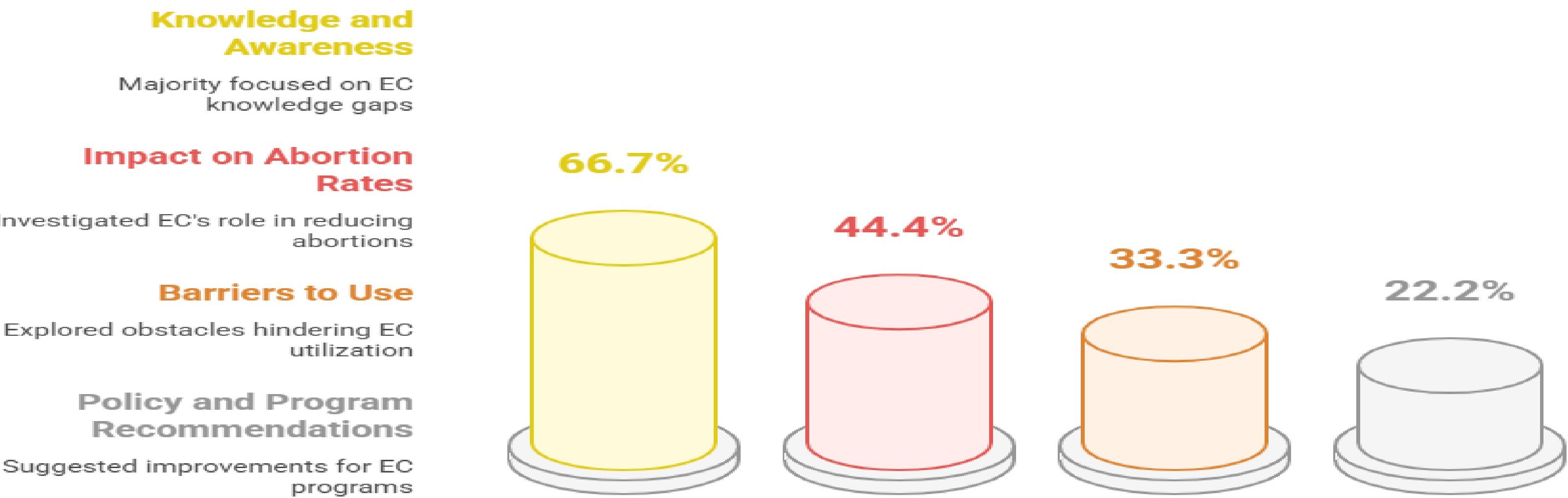
Study Selection Criteria for Emergency Contraception Research



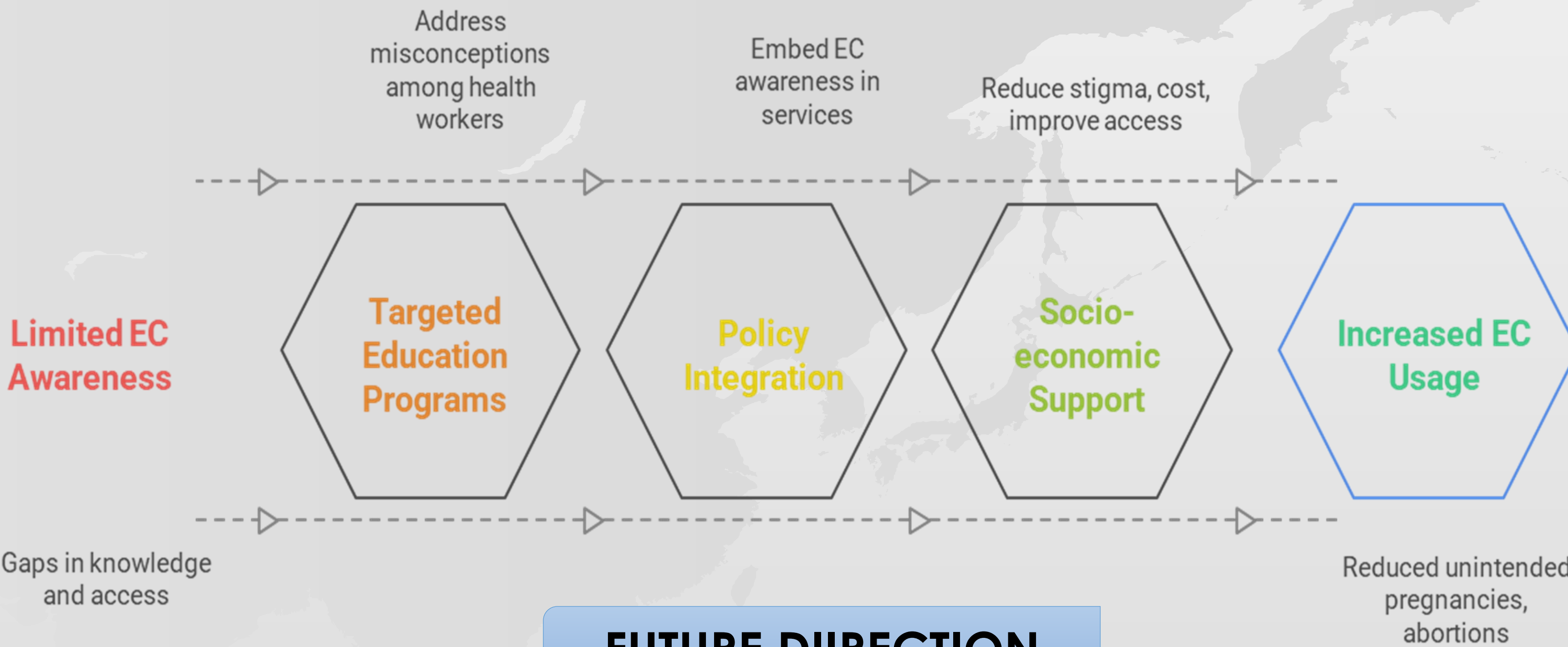
Addressing Barriers to Emergency Contraception



Focus Areas in Emergency Contraception Studies



Enhancing Emergency Contraception Access



FUTURE DIIRECTION

Research Gaps: Need for studies on long-term effects of EC use and dosage adjustments for overweight women.

Policy Reforms: Expand access in rural and underserved areas through telemedicine and community health workers. Reduce legal and financial barriers.

Education and Awareness: Combat misinformation and promote EC as a safe, effective method of preventing unintended pregnancies.

CONCLUSION

Emergency contraception is a crucial tool in reducing unintended pregnancies, yet access is hindered by various barriers. Addressing these issues through policy reforms, education, and improved healthcare access can empower women to better manage their reproductive health.

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