

**Adolescent contraception and abortion-related care: a three country comparison and Malawi case study**

PRESENTER: **Dr Grace Chiudzu**

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To understand why contraceptive and abortion-related care services are not used more fully by adolescents.
2. To understand the opportunities and barriers to scaling up the most effective implementation strategies for meeting adolescents' needs for contraception and abortion-related services.
3. To maximise the uptake of the research findings by decision-makers, practitioners and service providers.

**METHODS**

1. Facility-based recruitment of [n=105] 10-19 year-olds seeking either safe abortion care or post-abortion care at a tertiary public sector hospital in Lilongwe.
2. Quantitative and qualitative data collected

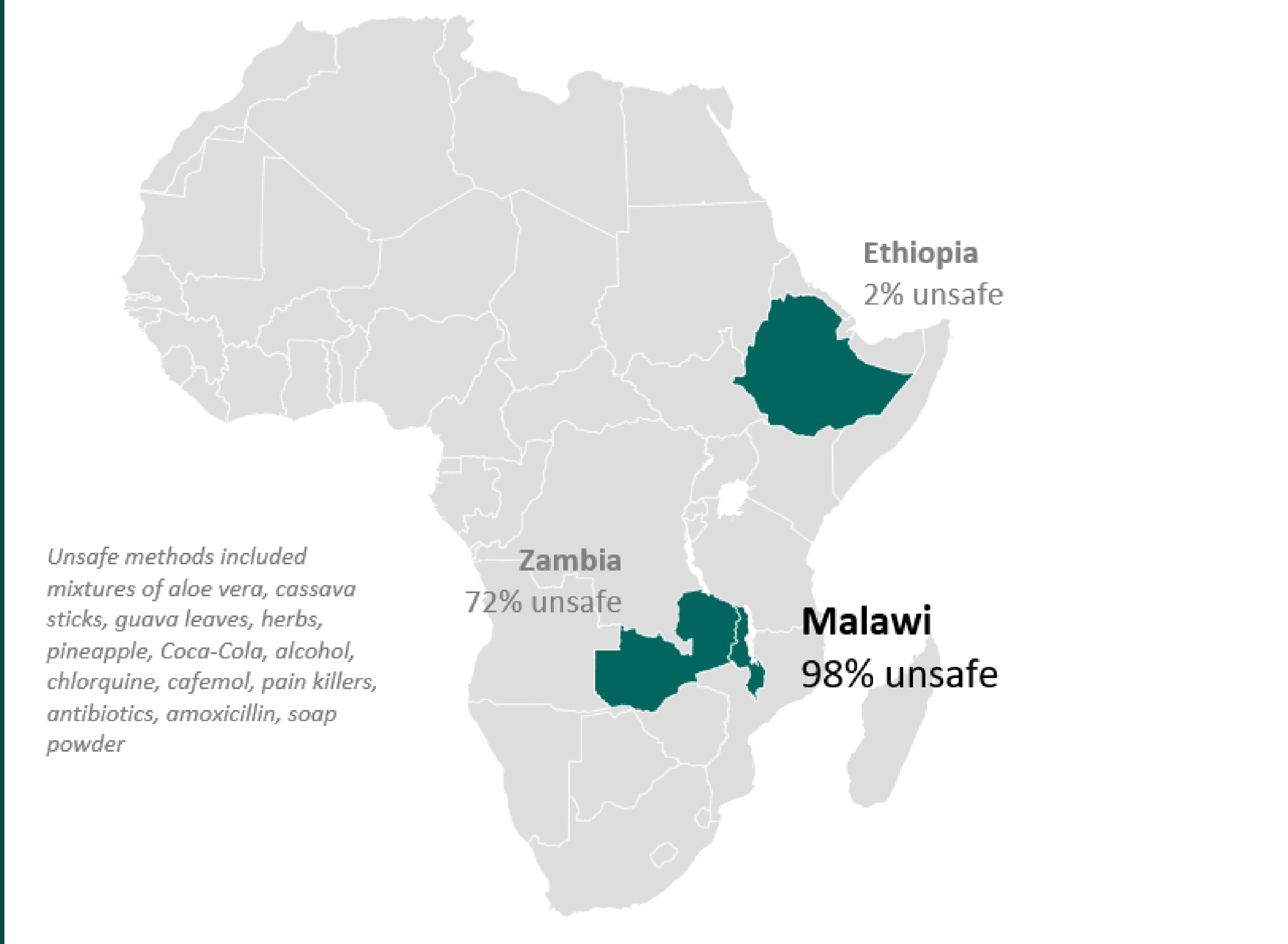
**OUR SAMPLE**

Sample characteristics

	Malawi [n=105]
	%
Currently has paid work	14
Current student	64
10-14 years	1
15-17 years	58
18-19 years	40
Single	86
Married / cohabiting	8
Divorced / separated	6

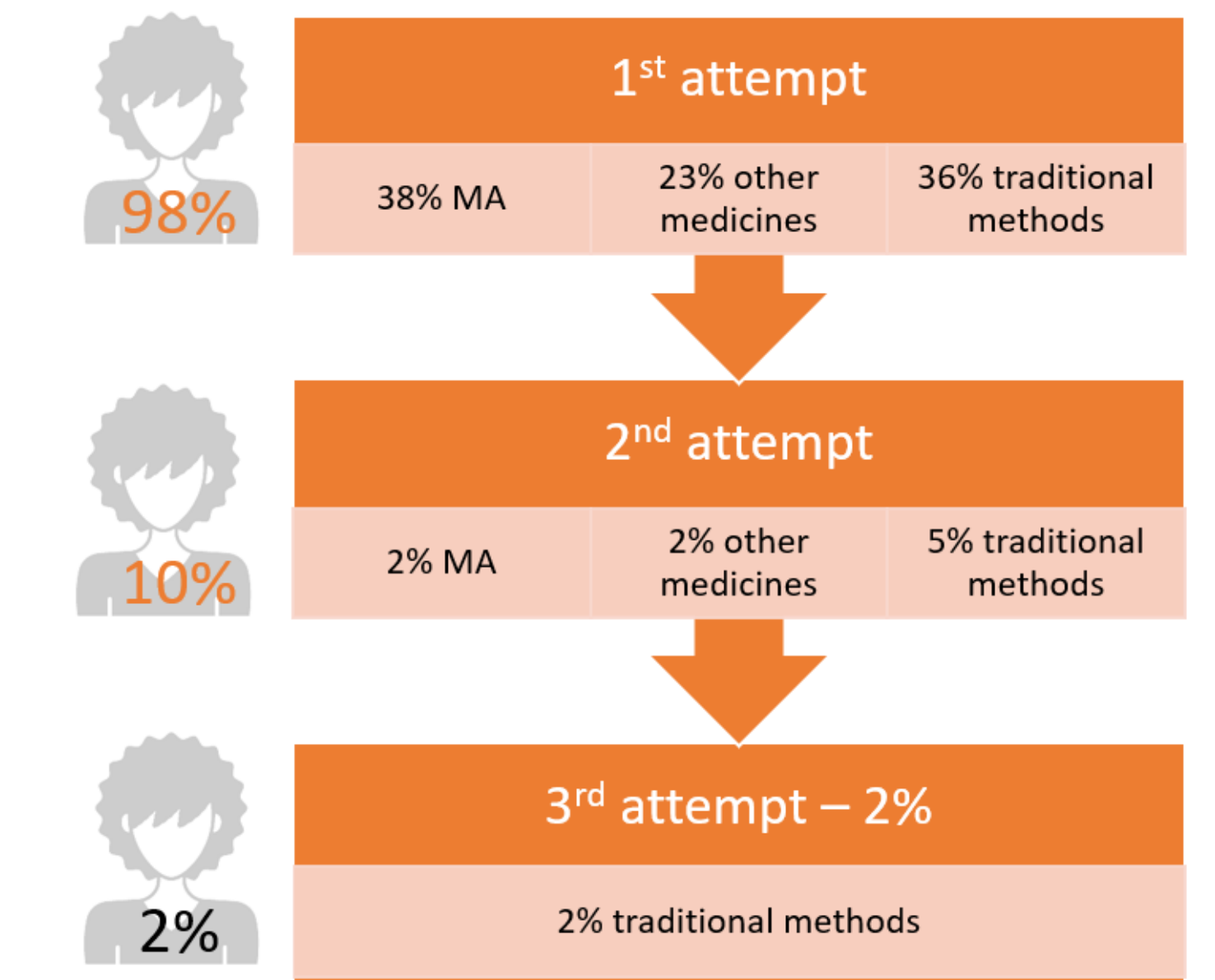
# Adolescents in Malawi have low levels of contraceptive knowledge and use unsafe abortion for unwanted pregnancy.

Percentage of induced abortions that were "unsafe" or resulted in complications requiring medical care

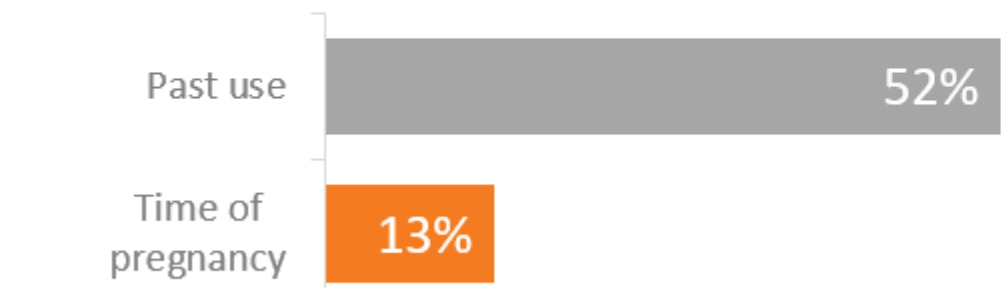


**Preliminary findings from Malawi:**

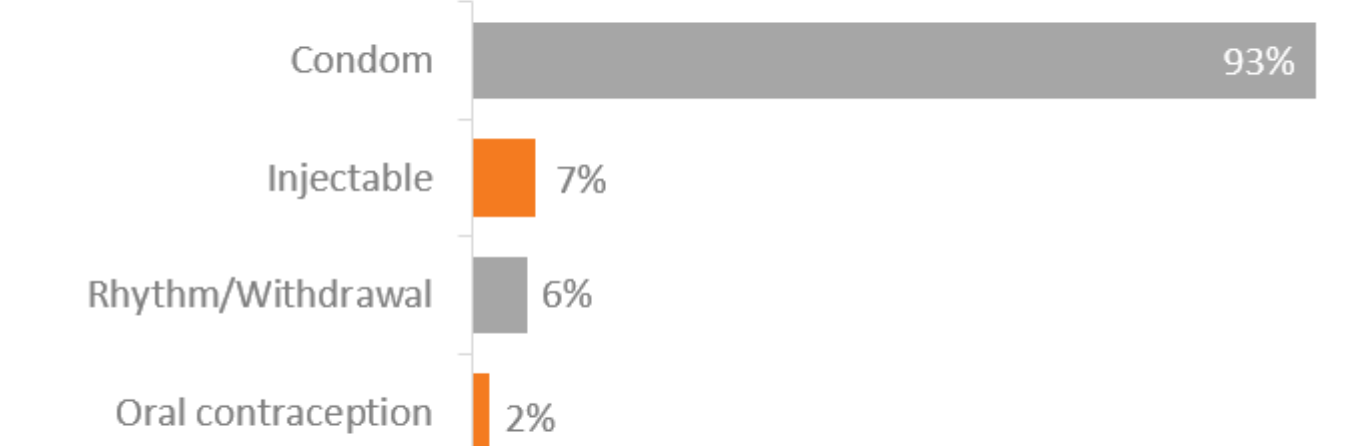
Many girls made **multiple attempts** to terminate their pregnancies before seeking care at a health facility (n = 96)



The percentage of 10 to 19 year olds who used contraception in the past was far higher than those using it **at the time they became pregnant.**

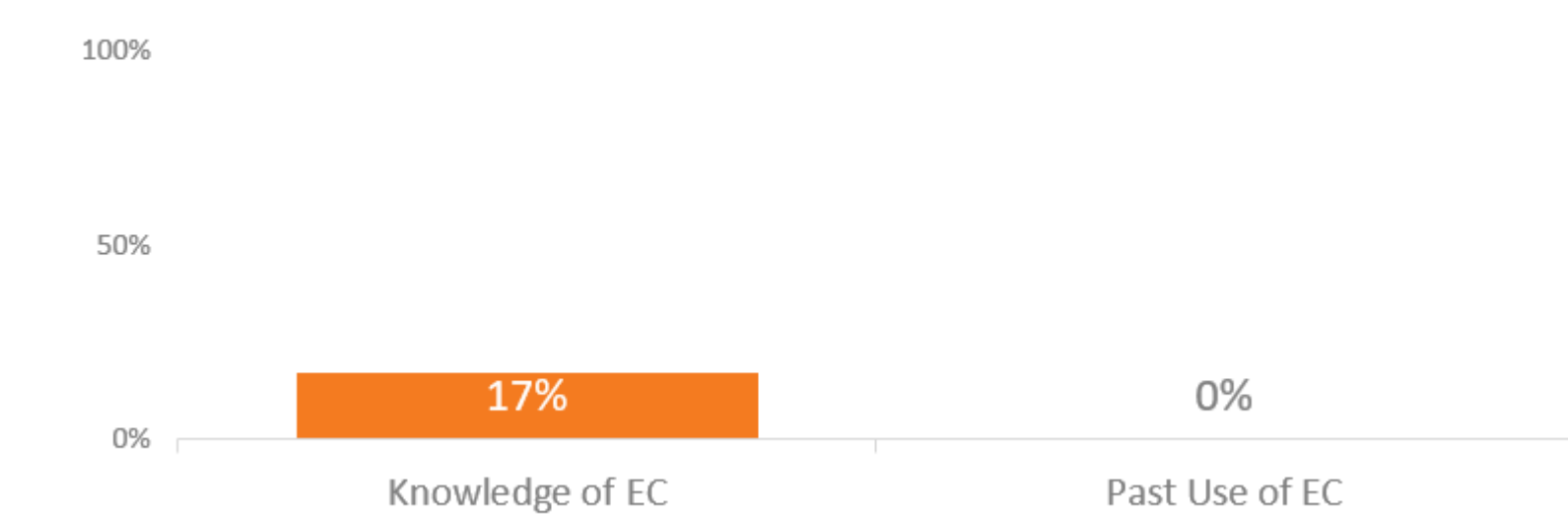


Among contraceptive users, very few were using **highly effective methods.\***

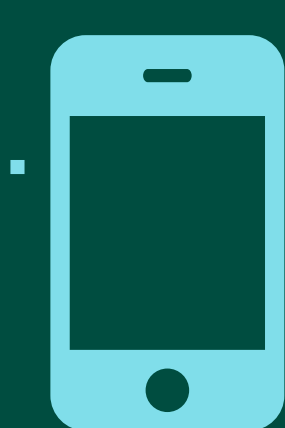


\*Percentages sum to more than 100% since multiple methods could be reported.

**Knowledge of EC was low and past use of EC was non-existent.**



Grace Chiudzu: chiudzug@gmail.com  
Ernestina Coast: e.coast@lse.ac.uk  
Tamara Feters: fetterst@ipas.org  
Luke Tembo: TemboL@ipas.org



Take a picture to find out more