

Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Langi/Luo Version Instrument and Scoring

Introduction to Scale: The Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale measures “the ability of an individual to make and act on decisions related to whether to do something to avoid or delay pregnancy and what, if anything, to do when they are not actively trying to become pregnant.” This scale was originally developed and validated in Uganda and Nigeria and offers an innovative approach for measuring the extent to which people have agency to make empowered contraceptive decisions. The measure includes 15 items divided among four subscales: 1) Beliefs about Rights and Perceived Decision-making Control, 2) Decision-making Self-efficacy, 3) Knowledge Aligned with Preferences, and 4) Control over Use or Non-use. Depending on researchers’ interests and priorities, the subscales can be used alone or as part of a composite measure.

Instructions to be read by interviewer administering the scale: “Amani ni amito penyi kede ngo ame yin iyero pi gengo yac. Apenyi ducu tye akwako yin kede kit ame yin ibedo kede. Omito ngeyo ngo ayin iyero kede miti ni ikwo ni alubere kede kop amako yore me lago nywal. Jo okene yero me tic kede yat me gengo yac, eka jo okene pe yero me tic kede yore moro keken. Ka okobo ni yore me gengo yac, nwongo atye akobo ni jami onyo yore apol atata ame ngatoro twero tic kede me gengo yac, twero bedo ni tic kede roc bol, oony oko, kwano nino, tucere ipico, royo nyonyo iyi komi, yen amwonya medo kede yore okene apapat. Wan omito niango tami akadi kono bed ni iyero onyo pe iyero me tic kede yore moro keken me gengo yac, abino wor tami nono. Ka dang itye itic kede yore moro me gengo yac, an dang aworo moka ni nono.”

Note to enumerators: Ask participants to first respond with a “yes” or “no.” Then ask them “is that a yes or strongly yes?” or “is that a no or strongly no?”.

Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale		
Question		Response Options
Subscale 1: Beliefs about Rights and Perceived Decision-making Control <i>(related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
1.	Itwero nwongo yat me gengo yac ka itye imito?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
2.	Itwero lok kede atic me yotkom ikom gengo yac ka itye imito?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
3.	Itamo ni gamente myero mi jo yen me gengo yac me nono, (pe owil awila)?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
4.	Myero jo/dano bed kede twero me ngeyo ka yen apapat me gengo yac tye?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal

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5.	Myero jo/dano bed kede twero me yero yore apapat me gengo yac ka gin otye omito tic kede?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
6.	Iye ni moka amon akwako yore me gengo yac tye anonok pi kit ame jo neno kede mon iyi akina paco kan?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
7.	Obedo tami ngat ame myero ikobe onyo pe ikobe ka itye itimo ginoro me gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
8.	Imoko yin ikomi tam anga ame iwinyo amako kop me gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
Subscale 2: Decision-making Self-efficacy <i>(related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
9.	Ka ngatoro me paco wu ni pe ocwako yore ame yin iyero onyo ame cunyi omaro, pwod iromo bedo kede kare me timo gin ame pore piri amakere kede gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
10.	Itye kede tek cunyi ni itwero timo ginoro aber piri alubere kede gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
11.	Ka ngatoro onyo ginoro tye agengi, itwero nwongo yo okene me timo gin imito timo alubere kede gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
Subscale 3: Knowledge Aligned with Preferences <i>(related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
12.	Ingeo yore apapat me gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
13.	Ikare ni ikwo ni, ingeo ngo ame imito ngeyo ikom gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal

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Subscale 4: Control over Use or Non-use <i>(interference with one's ability to act on decisions related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
14.	Tye ngatoro ikwo ni atye amiyi itimo ginoro ame pe itye imito timo alubere kede gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal
15.	Tye ngatoro ikwo ni ame tye agengi oko itimo ginoro ame tye imito alubere kede gengo yac?	☐ Eeh atek ☐ Eeh ☐ Pe ☐ Pe atwal

Scoring the Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale

Responses for each item should be coded as follows, “strongly no”=0, “no”=1, “yes”=2, “strongly yes”=3. A stronger affirmative response represents greater agency. The scale includes several negatively worded items (questions 14 and 15 above) that should be reverse scored (i.e. “strongly no”=3; “strongly yes”=0) to match this coding method. Scores are calculated by taking the mean of the items of interest (e.g., for the full scale, responses are summed and divided by 15; for subscales, the responses are summed and divided by the total number of subscale items). In the original scale construction, we used complete case analysis (i.e., only observations with valid responses on all scale items were included in psychometric analysis).

References:

Measurement Framework for the Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Holt, K., Challa, S., Alitubeera, P., Atuyambe, L., Dehlendorf, C., Galavotti, C., Idiodi, I., Jegede, A., Omoluabi, E., Waiswa, P., & Upadhyay, U. (2024). Conceptualizing Contraceptive Agency: A Critical Step to Enable Human Rights-Based Family Planning Programs and Measurement. *Global health: Science and Practice*, 12(1), e2300299. <https://doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-23-00299>.

Development and Validation of the Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Challa, S., Upadhyay, U., Wasswa, R., Nanono, S., Idiodi, I., Okoli, C., Alitubeera, P., Amongin, D., Jegede, A., Tijani, A., Birabwa, C., Atuyambe, L., Dimowa, S., Nmadu, A., Dehlendorf, D., Omoluabi, E., Waiswa, P., Holt, K. Development and Validation of the Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale in Uganda and Nigeria. *Studies in Family Planning* (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.70033>.

Other Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale versions:

The Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale is also available in Hausa, Igbo, Lusoga, and English on the ICAN website [here](#). **A version for the United States context has also been adapted and validated:** Challa, S., Spiller, K., Upadhyay, U. D. & Holt, K. P083 - ADAPTATION AND VALIDATION OF THE CONTRACEPTIVE AGENCY SCALE FOR THE US. *Contraception* 139, 110662 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2024.110662>.