

Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Lusoga 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: Buti, nenda kukubuzaku bibuuzo ebigema kubyoyenda ebiziya okufuna enda. Ebibuuzo bino byona byona bikugemaku n’ebyo byobitamu nga omuntu. Twenda kutegeera kubyosalagho nibyewateega ebigema ku famire n’enkola eziya okufuna enda. Abantu abandi basalagho okukozesa enkola eziya okufuna enda, abantu abandi basalagho obutadikozesa. Enkola ediziya okufuna enda ndikutegeeza enkola edhendawulo omuntu dayiinsa okukozesa oba okukola, nga kwotaire enkola eya obupiira, okumalira kuluya, okubala enaku,empiso ebintu biota mumubiri, obukerenda, oba ebintu ebindi. Twenda kuwulira ndoghoozayo era titukifaaku oba nga olinenkola yewasalagho okukozesa okweziya okufuna amabunda oba bbe – twisa ekitiibwa mukusalagho okwengeri yona yona. Era ghobanga olikola ekintu kyona kyona okweziya okufuna enda, ndisa ekitiibwa munkola yona yona yewasalagho okukozesa. Nga maliriza, ghenkubuuza ebibuuzo ebigema kunkola ediziya okufuna enda, ntegeeza okukola ekintu kyona kyona okweziya okufuna enda – tikugitolamu oba kunaaza munda nga omaze okugifuna.

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.	Osobola okufuna enkola eziya okufuna amabunda singa oba ojenze?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
2.	Osobola okwogera n’omusawo kubigema kunkola yoyenze eziya okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
3.	Okiriza nti gavumenti eri nokutuusa kubantu enkola ediziya okufuna amabunda kubwerere?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii

Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Lusoga Version

		☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
4.	Abantu babe neidembe elyokubakobera enkola ediriwo ediziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
5.	Abantu babe neidembe okulondaku kunkola edhendawulo edikozesebwa okuziyiza okufuna amabunda singa baba benze okudhikosesa?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
6.	Oikiriza nti okusalawo kw'abakazi okweziyiza okufuna amabunda balemesebwa olwendowooza edho bomubyalo eri abakazi?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
7.	Ghesalirawo mwene ani yokobera oba obutakobera kubigema kukukozesa eyekintu kyona kyona ekiziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
8.	Ghesalirawo mwene ndowoza yani yowulirisa kubigemagana kukuziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
Subscale 2: Decision-making Self-efficacy <i>(related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
9.	Singa omuntu owomumakago tawagira kusalawokwo, osobola okusigala nga okola kiiki ekikukolera ekigemagana kukweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
10.	Wekakasa nti osobola okukola ekisinga bulungi yoli ekigemagana kukweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
11.	Singa ekintu oba omuntu ayemerera mungirayo, osobola okufuna engeri eyokukola kiiki kyoyenda ekigema kukweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe

Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale: Lusoga Version

		☐ Bbe waire
Subscale 3: Knowledge Aligned with Preferences <i>(related to what, if anything, to do to avoid pregnancy)</i>		
12.	Oidi engeri edhendawulo doyinza okweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
13.	Kukiseera kino mubulamubwo, oidhi kyoyenda okutegeera kubyokweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
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.	Eriyo omuntu mubulamubwo akuwaliriza okukola kyotayenda kukola ekigema kukweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire
15.	Eriyo omuntu mubulamubwo akulemesa okukola kyoyenda okweziyiza okufuna amabunda?	☐ Yii nikyo kyene ☐ Yii ☐ Bbe ☐ Bbe waire

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>.

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Other Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale versions:

The Agency in Contraceptive Decisions Scale is also available in Hausa, Igbo, Langi/Luo, 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>.