Many young women do not have a regular source of health care and visit urgent care clinics or the emergency department when they feel the need. These women may worry about becoming pregnant but have a hard time asking a doctor for birth control.

In this study we found that women who use a computer program while waiting to see a doctor at an urgent care clinic or emergency department to learn about their birth control options are more likely to receive a birth control prescription. Almost all of the women who used the computer program and requested birth control were satisfied with the program, and many would recommend the program to a friend, although about half said they would rather talk to a clinician about birth control.

Making this computer program available did not change how long women had to wait to see a doctor or delay their care in any way.