

Hormonal Contraceptives

Procured by UNFPA

1 Emergency Contraceptives



Often called "the morning-after pill", emergency contraception is a method of preventing pregnancy after unprotected sex. The emergency pill contains hormones that are similar to oral contraceptives, but with higher doses.



Effective within 72 hours of unprotected sex



Not to be used as a regular contraceptive method.



Efficacy with typical use

2 Combined Oral Contraceptives



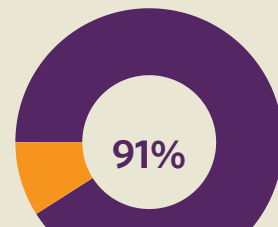
Commonly referred to as "the pill", the combined oral contraceptive pill contains the hormones; estrogen and progestin, which prevent pregnancy by stopping the ovaries from releasing eggs.



Highly effective when used as directed

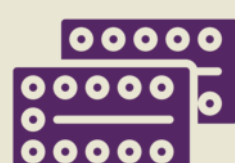


Must be taken at the same time every day



Efficacy with typical use

3 Low Dose Contraceptives



Low-dose contraceptives, often called "mini-pills", are a contraceptive method that contain very low doses of a progestin hormone.

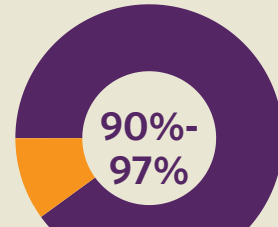
The lack of oestrogen makes the low dose contraceptive suitable for breastfeeding women.



Effectiveness depends on user. Less effective for women not breastfeeding



Must be taken at the same time every day whether you have sex or not



Efficacy with typical use

4 Injectable Contraceptives



The injectable contraceptive is a shot that contains hormones, either a progestin-only, or both a progestin and an estrogen. The injections prevent pregnancy by stopping your body from releasing eggs and thickening the mucus at the cervix.

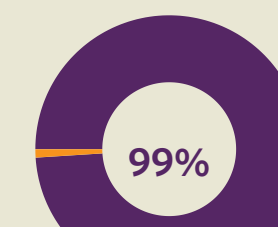
Must be administered by a health care provider



Highly effective. Effectiveness depends on getting injections regularly



Shot must be taken either once every month or once every three months



Efficacy depends on typical and correct use

5 Implantable Contraceptives



Implants are small flexible rods that are placed under the skin of the upper arm. Implants release a progestin hormone that works by preventing the ovaries from releasing eggs. It also thickens the cervical mucus, which keeps the sperm from getting to the egg.

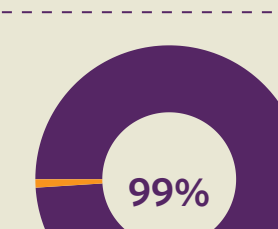
Must be administered by a health care provider



Effectiveness depends on implant type. Can be effective from 3 to 5 years



Must be inserted once every 3 - 5 years depending on implant type



Efficacy with typical use

6 Hormonal Intrauterine Device (IUD)



The hormone-releasing intrauterine device (IUD) is inserted into the uterus by a trained medical health professional. The IUD releases levonorgestrel which stops the sperm from reaching the egg.

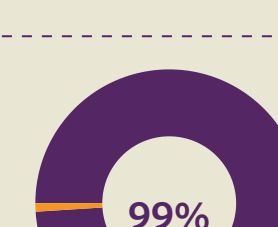
Must be administered by a health care provider



Highly effective



Can be used for up to five years and removed at any time. May be used to treat heavy menstrual bleeding.



Efficacy with typical use

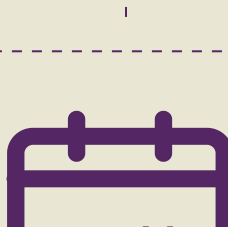
7 Vaginal Ring



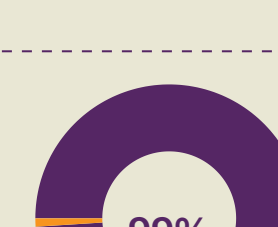
The vaginal ring is a small, flexible ring placed inside the vagina. The ring releases estrogen and progestin into the bloodstream to stop ovulation and thicken the mucus around your cervix, making it difficult for the sperm to reach and fertilize an egg.



Highly effective



It should be replaced every month



Efficacy with typical use