

IUD Intra-Uterine Device for Contraception

How it works:

The IUD is a small device that must be inserted into the uterus by a health care provider. The active component of the IUD (copper or progesterone) has been shown to prevent sperm from fertilizing the egg, preventing pregnancy.

Effectiveness:

Overall effectiveness rate is approximately 99.4% to 99.8%

Benefits:

- Does not need daily attention
- May be used continuously for 5 to 10 years, depending on type of IUD
- May be used when breastfeeding
- Over time this method is very cost effective

Drawbacks:

- Provides no protection against STDs
- In rare instances, may increase susceptibility to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (infection of the fallopian tubes), tubal pregnancies or infertility
- Medical exam required
- Possible heavier cramps and bleeding during periods, and spotting between periods, especially in the first few months after insertion
- Initial cost is higher, however many insurance plans will cover the cost of an IUD. UHS is also able to create a payment plan.

Discuss full benefits and drawbacks with your own personal health care provider. This method is recommended most for women who have already completed their childbearing.

Test Results and Advice Nurse

Please call the nurse for test results and advice: 863-4463

Appointments

Appointments can be made online via the UHS website, by phone or in person. If you are unable to keep your appointment, please call and cancel. Otherwise you will be charged for the visit.

To schedule or cancel appointments, call: 863-0774 or schedule your appointment online through the UHS website.

For more information about health care issues, visit the UHS Web site at www.sa.psu.edu/uhs

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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