

EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION

The most common type of Emergency Contraception (EC) is known as The Morning After Pill, or Plan B Pill. This EC contains a form of the progesterone hormone called levonorgestrel. A second type of EC consists of a combination of progesterone and estrogen hormones.

An intrauterine device - Copper (IUD) can also be used for EC. The copper IUD is a plastic and copper device that must be inserted into the uterus by a health care provider.

EC is believed to act principally by preventing ovulation or fertilization.

EC is not believed to be effective once implantation has taken place and a pregnancy is present.

There are dozens of manufacturers of Emergency Contraception Medication. Side effects include queasiness and some women throw up after taking emergency contraception pills. You may also experience a headache, feel tired or dizzy, have some lower abdominal pain, or find your breast are more tender than usual.

NOTE: In a study of Plan B, a common hormonal emergency contraceptive, about 20% of women experience headaches, 13-14% experience painful menstruation, and 11-12% experienced nausea.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Emergency Contraception is not effective if a woman is already pregnant.
- Emergency Contraception does not protect against HIV infection and other sexually transmitted infections (Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, etc.)
- The most common side effects in Plan B clinical trials were nausea, abdominal pain, fatigue, headache, and menstrual changes.
- **The manufacturers warn that Emergency Contraception is not to be used as a routine contraceptive.**

More Information

<https://amc-ca.com/emergency-contraceptives/>

Contact Us

Request an Appointment: <https://amc-ca.com/appointments/>