EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION IN AUSTRALIA

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WHAT IS IT?
Emergency contraception (EC) is one of the range of contraceptive choices available in Australia. The three methods in Australia are Levonorgestrel (LNG) and Ulipristal Acetate (UPA, emergency contraceptive pills (ECPs)) which are oral medications, and the Copper Intrarectal Device (CID).

WHEN IS IT USED?
EC is not primarily made for women before sexual acts, although it is generally available for general public use. However, a general awareness about EC is often not what is happening with access to EC in Australia.

Regardless of its ability to prevent pregnancy, EC is not a replacement for regular contraceptive use. ECPs are not a perfect protection and should be used as a last resort to prevent pregnancy. Women should be educated about the potential errors in each method, even if they use EC after UPSI to prevent pregnancy.

ECPs can only be taken “the morning after”.

The EC method is 100% effective, and she must return for

importance that the client understands that no EC

is not currently marketed in Australia, or which are undergoing investigation. The effectiveness of ECPs is shown in two ways:

- The IUD is a method that provides ongoing contraception. In Australia there are currently

- ECs are not as effective as ongoing methods of contraception and should be used as a last resort to prevent pregnancy. In Australia, the IUD is the most reliable method of contraception for women who have already had a pregnancy.

- The benefits of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) are long-term contraceptive methods that provide protection for up to 5 years. LARC methods include the intrauterine device (IUD) and the contraceptive implant.

- Women should be educated about the potential errors in each method, even if they use EC after UPSI to prevent pregnancy.

- Although this is the most effective method of contraception for women who want to avoid pregnancy, it can be used as a last resort to prevent pregnancy.

- Effective EC is a useful tool for women who may have not used contraception or for those who may have had fallopian tube surgery, or for women who are at risk of tubal pregnancy. Effective EC is not only important for women who have had a pregnancy, but it is also important for women who are at risk of pregnancy.

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