



IUD Information

<p>What is the IUD? (Intrauterine Device)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plastic rod with 2 arms and a string. • About the size of a quarter. • Inserted into the uterus to prevent pregnancy. <p>There are 4 types of IUDs in the US: one copper IUD and 3 types of progestin (hormone) IUDs. <i>To choose the right one for you, see the chart on the other side of this handout.</i></p>
<p>How well does the IUD work?</p>	<p>The IUD prevents pregnancy in 99% of women who use it.</p>
<p>Is the IUD safe?</p>	<p>Yes. Serious problems with the IUD are rare, and most happen in the first few days.</p>
<p>Does the IUD cause an abortion?</p>	<p>No. The IUD works by preventing sperm from fertilizing eggs.</p>
<p>Can I get an IUD if I've never had a baby?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>How is the IUD inserted?</p>	<p>After putting a speculum in the vagina, a medical provider inserts the IUD into the uterus. Many providers give pain medicine before the procedure. Some women have cramps and spotting for a few hours afterwards.</p>
<p>Does the IUD have side effects?</p>	<p>Yes. Most side effects last only for a few months. See other side for details.</p>
<p>Does the IUD cause infections?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Does the IUD protect against HIV and other sexually transmitted infections?</p>	<p>No, the IUD does NOT protect you from sexually transmitted infections. Unless you and your partner have sex only with each other, you should use a latex condom every time you have sex (even with the IUD in place) to prevent infections.</p>
<p>Do I need to check the IUD?</p>	<p>No. If you're not sure it is in place, you can check the IUD strings or see your health care provider.</p>
<p>What happens if I don't like the IUD or I want to get pregnant?</p>	<p>Your health care provider will remove the IUD. Some women have removed the IUD themselves. Most women get pregnant quickly after removing the IUD.</p>
<p>Can I use the IUD for emergency contraception?</p>	<p>Yes, the Copper IUD can be inserted up to 5 days after unprotected sex as emergency contraception.</p>



Which IUD Is Right For Me?

	Copper IUD	Hormonal IUD
		
Brand name	Paragard®	Mirena®, Skyla®, Liletta™
When does the IUD start working?	Right away.	7 days after it is inserted. Use condoms or another method of birth control for the first 7 days after the IUD is inserted to prevent pregnancy.
How long can one IUD stay in the uterus?	10-12 years	Mirena® and Liletta™ can work for 5-7 years. Skyla® works for 3 years.
Does it contain hormones?	No	Yes: a low dose of progestin (no estrogen). Mirena® and Liletta™ contain the same amount of hormones and Skyla® contains less.
Benefits	<p>No need to think about birth control at any time.</p> <p>Private.</p> <p>Works better than the pill, the patch, the ring, or the shot at preventing pregnancy.</p> <p>Can be used while breastfeeding.</p>	
	Can be used as emergency contraception.	<p>Can decrease heavy periods, cramps, PMS.</p> <p>Many women stop getting their period after a few months of use (some women like this).</p>
Side effects* <i>*These may be bothersome but are not unsafe</i>	<p>Some women have heavier periods than before.</p> <p>Some women have more cramps with their period than before.</p> <p>Ibuprofen helps with both of these side effects.</p>	<p>Some women experience spotting.</p> <p>Many women stop getting their period after a few months of use (some women don't like this).</p>
Cost	<p>Covered by many insurance plans.</p> <p>If not covered, cost may vary from \$0 to \$1,000.</p>	