

C5.14 - FEMALE/INTRAVAGINAL CONDOM

Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the use of the female/intravaginal pouch is a thin condom designed to provide individuals with protection against pregnancy and to reduce the risk of AIDS and other STIs. It consists of a soft, loose-fitting sheath and two flexible rings. One of the rings is used to insert the device and to hold it in place. The other ring remains outside the vagina after insertion. The condom covers the labia and the base of the penis during intercourse. Upon insertion, it lines the vagina. It is disposable and can be used only once.

Procedure

Mode of Action (Barrier Method)

Ejaculation can occur while the penis is in the vagina, since the ejaculate is contained within the vaginal pouch.

Effectiveness

- Theoretical effectiveness is 95%.
- Actual use effectiveness is 79%.

Advantages

- Does not require a prescription.
- May be used as a back-up method of birth control.
- Reduces the risk of STIs.
- Enables individual to use protection when their partner will not.
- May be inserted several minutes or hours before intercourse.
- May enhance pleasure for individuals.

Disadvantages

- More expensive than the external condom. Can be used only once and then must be discarded.
- Easily torn by sharp object like a ring or fingernail.
- Must be used with each act of intercourse.

Contraindications

None

Side Effects

No allergic reactions have been reported.

Instructions to the Client

- Should not be used in conjunction with an external condom.
- Follow insertion instructions on the package.

Fertility Return

There is no disruption to fertility. Given lower efficacy of barrier methods for contraception, please recommend users also take a prenatal vitamin or folic acid supplement.

Date Revised	September 2023
References	Providing Quality Family Planning Services Recommendations of CDC and the U.S. Office of Population Affairs (QFP) [2014] (https://www.hhs.gov/opa/guidelines/clinical-guidelines/quality-family-planning/index.html)
Additional Resources	Summary Chart of U.S. Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 2020 (https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/contraception/pdf/summary-chart-us-medical-eligibility-criteria_508tagged.pdf)