

**Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Emergency Contraception
Model Standing Order**

The procedures and protocols in this model standing order reflect medical research and standards of practice, approved December 2005; reviewed June 2007. The standing order must be signed by the physician.

Emergency Contraception (EC) is indicated for pregnancy prevention (regardless of timing of the menstrual cycle) following:

- ◆ unprotected intercourse
- ◆ sexual assault
- ◆ known or suspected contraceptive failure (e.g. slipped, broken or leaked condom, delayed Depo Provera injection, missed one or more oral contraceptive pills, IUD partially or totally expelled, spermicide tablet not dissolving, withdrawal failure, etc.) **or**
- ◆ for advanced provision when there is a likelihood of future contraceptive failure.

To obtain optimal efficacy, EC should be taken as soon as possible after unprotected intercourse, since efficacy declines over time. The federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined that treatment initiated within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse is safe and effective for use as post-coital emergency contraception.

Emergency Contraception Order:

1. Assess patient indications for Emergency Contraception described above.
2. Screen for contraindications according to Table 1.

Table 1. Contraindications to Emergency Contraception

- Known, established pregnancy reported by the patient
- Known hypersensitivity to any component of the product
- Undiagnosed abnormal genital bleeding reported by the patient

3. Dispense Emergency Contraception (Plan B), two tablets according to the recommended schedule (Table 2).

**Table 2. Emergency Contraception dosage - United States
FDA Approved Product for Emergency Contraception**

Brand	Manufacturer	Dose	Levonorgestrel per Dose (mg)
Plan B	Duramed	1 tablet per dose (2 dose regimen)	0.75

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4. Provide Patient Instructions:

Take one tablet by mouth within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse.

Take an additional tablet 12 hours after the first dose.

If vomiting occurs within two hours of administration an antiemetic should be considered and the dose can be repeated.

If menses does not occur within three weeks of EC use, a pregnancy test is indicated.

Encourage patient to contact their primary care provider, women's health provider, or family planning clinic for follow-up and to discuss birth control and STD/HIV prevention.

5. Additional Instructions:

6. List entities authorized by this standing order. If needed, attach additional pages.

Pharmacy and/or corporate entity

Address

Physician's Signature and License No.

Date

Physician's Name (Print)

Order Expiration Date