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Hormonal and IUD Contraceptive Agents Available in Canada

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Pharmacists play an important role in primary and emergency contraception. They can recommend suitable therapy, counsel, as well as monitor their patients for adverse effects. The array of hormonal contraceptives, influx of generics, and growing awareness of intrauterine devices (IUDs) along with their efficacy and safety profile, reinforces pharmacists' important role for women seeking, initiating or currently utilizing contraception.

The following tables have been compiled as a reference for selecting products and finding suitable alternatives. The tables focus on hormonal contraceptives, IUD primary contraceptives, and emergency contraceptives currently available in Canada. Tables are listed alphabetically by progestin component.

TABLE 1: Combined Oral Contraceptives(1)

Unless otherwise specified, pack sizes available: 21 Day (21 active tablets), 28 Day (21 active/7 inert tablets)

Monophasic Oral Contraceptives		
Original Product	Generic or Equivalent	Estrogen

		Ethinyl estradiol
Diane-35	Cleo-35, Cyestra-35,	35 mcg
		Ethinyl estradiol
Marvelon	Apri, Freya, Mirvala, Reclipsen	30 mcg
		Ethinyl estradiol
Yaz, Yaz Plus	Mya	20 mcg
Yasmin, Yasmin Plus	Zamine, Zarah, Qismette ^b	30 mcg
		Ethinyl estradiol
Demulen 30		30 mcg
		Ethinyl estradiol
Alesse	Alysena, Aviane, Esme, Luteru	20 mcg
Min-Ovral	Ovima, Portia	30 mcg
		Ethinyl estradiol
Minestrin 1/20		20 mcg
Loestrin 1.5/30		30 mcg
Brevicon 0.5/35, Ortho 0.5/35		35 mcg

Brevicon 1/35, Ortho 1/35	Select 1/35		35 mcg
			Ethinyl estradiol
Cyclen	Previfem ^b , Sarensis ^b		35 mcg
Multiphasic Oral Contraceptives			
		Days	Ethinyl estradiol
Linessa		1 to 7	25 mcg
		8 to 14	25 mcg
		15 to 21	25 mcg
			Ethinyl estradiol
Triquilar		1 to 6	30 mcg
		7 to 11	40 mcg
		12 to 21	30 mcg
			Ethinyl estradiol
Lolo		1 to 24	10 mcg
		25 to 26	10 mcg
Synphasic		1 to 7	35 mcg
		8 to 16	35 mcg
		17 to 21	35 mcg

Ortho 7/7/7		1 to 7	35 mcg
		8 to 14	35 mcg
		15 to 21	35 mcg
Multiphasic Oral Contraceptives continued			
Original Product	Generic or Equivalent		Estrogen
		Days	Ethinyl estradiol
Tri-Cyclen Lo	Tricira Lo, Tri-Lena Lo ^b , Centrisa-Lo ^b	1 to 7	25 mcg
		8 to 14	25 mcg
		15 to 21	25 mcg
Tri-Cyclen	Centrisa ^b , Tri-Lena ^b , Tri-Previfem ^b	1 to 7	35 mcg
		8 to 14	35 mcg
		15 to 21	35 mcg
Commercial Extended Cycle Oral Contraceptives			
		Days	Ethinyl estradiol
Seasonale	Indayo	1 TO 84	30 mcg
Seasonique		1 TO 84	30 mcg
		85 to 91	10 mcg

TABLE 2: Progestin Only Contraceptives

All progestin only methods (Including IUD) suitable postpartum & breastfeeding (1,2)

Original Product	Generic or Equivalent	Progestin	Concentration	Form
Depo-Provera-SC		Medroxyprogesterone	104mg/0.65mL	Subcutaneous Pre-filled syringe
Depo-Provera	Sandoz	Medroxyprogesterone	150mg/mL	Intramuscular Injection
Micronor	Jencycla, Movisse	Norethindrone	0.35 mg	Oral Tablet

TABLE 3: Non Oral Hormonal Contraceptives (1,2)

Original Product	Ethinyl estradiol	Etonogestrel	Other Indication/Comments
Nuvaring Slow Release Vaginal Ring	2.6 mg (15mcg daily)	11.4 mg (120mcg daily)	3 weeks continuous use, 1 week off 5 to 13% of patients may experience
	Ethinyl estradiol	Norelgestromin	
Evra Transdermal Patch	0.6mg (35mcg daily)	6 mg (200mcg daily)	Change weekly for 3 weeks, 1 week off Can use consecutively for 9 to 12 weeks If weight >90Kg, less effective & increased risk of thromboembolism

TABLE 4: Intrauterine devices (IUD) (1,3-8) – may be covered by Extended Health Plans

Hormonal IUD			
Trade Name	Manufacturer	Levonorgestrel	Length of use

Jaydess	Bayer	13.5 mg	3 years
Mirena	Bayer	52 mg	5 years
Kleenya	Bayer	19.5 mg	5 years

Copper IUD^c - All indicated for Contraception. Some are approved for Emergency Contraception (see

Trade Name	Manufacturer	Copper (mg/mm2)	Length of use
Flexi-T 300	TriMedic	300	5 years
Flexi-T 300+	TriMedic	300	5 years
Flexi-T 380+	TriMedic	380	5 years
Liberte UT Standard	MediSafe	380	5 years
Liberte UT Short	MediSafe	380	5 years
Liberte TT Standard	MediSafe	380	10 years
Liberte TT Short	MediSafe	380	5 years
Mona Lisa N	Besins Health Care	300	3 years
Mona Lisa 5	Besins Health Care	380	5 years
Mona Lisa 5 Mini	Besins Health Care	380	5 years
Mona Lisa 10	Besins Health Care	380	10 years
Nova-T	Bayer	200	2.5 years

SMB	SMB Corp of India	380	10 years
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TABLE 5: Emergency Contraceptives (EC) – for use after Unprotected Intercourse (UPI) (1,9-10)^d

Original Product	Generic or Equivalent	Drug	Concentration	Indications/Contraindications
Plan B	Next Choice, Norlevo, Option 2	Levonorgestrel	0.75 mg x 2 tablets as a single dose	Take within 72H Less effective for weight > 75 kg
Plan B	Backup Plan Onestep, Contingency One	Levonorgestrel	1.5 mg tablet as a single dose	NOT effective if taken > 72H Note: Levonorgestrel is not approved or recommended for use in children
Ella		Ulipristal	30 mg	Take within 120H Also suitable for weight > 75 kg NOT effective if taken > 120H
Yuzpe Regimen^e		Each ORAL Dose: Alesse 5 tablets <u>OR</u> Min-Ovral 4 tablets <u>OR</u> Triquilar 4 yellow tablets		TWO DOSES T Less effective, n
Copper IUD^f Liberte Mona Lisa Flexi-T	Other Brands of Copper IUD may be provided off label	Copper	Various	Used up to 7 da Most effective m Also suitable fo

a - indicated for the treatment of women with severe acne, with associated symptoms of androgenization, including

seborrhea and mild hirsutism. Should be used only when acne is unresponsive to topical therapy & oral antibiotics. Discontinue 3 to 4 cycles post acne resolution

b - Products which have received Health Canada approval, but are not yet on the market

c - More information available at www.iudinsertion.ca

d - Pregnancy test should be done if no menses within 21 days of using pills or Copper IUD insertion for EC

e - Off label use. Recommended when other forms of EC are not available

f - For a list of practitioners available to insert an IUD for emergency contraception see: www.emergencyiud.com

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