



REQUEST FOR AN INTRAUTERINE COPPER DEVICE (IUD)

What is a Copper T IUD?

A ParaGard T 380A IUD (intrauterine device) is a small piece of plastic with thin copper wire, shaped like a "T" that is used to prevent pregnancy. It is inserted into the uterus by a healthcare provider and can last for 10 years.

How does the Copper T IUD work?

- A Copper T IUD causes changes in your body that kill sperm or make them less active.
- For every 100 women using this type of IUD, fewer than 1 per year will get pregnant.
- The Copper T IUD has 2 strings on the end that allows a woman to check that the IUD is in place.

Who can use a Copper T IUD?

Women of any reproductive age can use an IUD, except women who:

- are pregnant;
- had a recent infection (last 3 months) of the uterus or fallopian tubes after childbirth or after an abortion;
- have unexplained vaginal bleeding;
- have cancer of the cervix, ovaries, or lining of the uterus;
- have had cervicitis, endometritis, PID (pelvic inflammatory disease) in the last three months;
- have a current STD or have had a STD in the last three months (including HIV/AIDS);
- have multiple sex partners and are at risk for a STD (sexually transmitted disease);
- had cancer of the trophoblastic cells during pregnancy;
- have an irregularly shaped uterus, which makes it difficult to insert an IUD;
- have severe anemia; or
- are allergic to copper.

If you are a teen and you decide to use an IUD, we suggest that you talk to your family about it.

Does the Copper T IUD protect against AIDs and STDs?

IUDs will not protect you against HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, or against sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Women at risk of HIV/AIDS or STDs should use a female condom or a male latex condom in addition to an IUD to prevent disease. If you or your partner is allergic to latex, use polyurethane condoms. Your healthcare provider can help you decide if you are at risk of HIV/AIDS or STDs.

What are the possible side effects from using the Copper T IUD?

Women using an IUD may have pain and/or cramping during periods. They may also have long, heavy bleeding during periods. Inserting the IUD may, but very rarely, cause infection of the uterus or fallopian tubes in some women who are at risk for infection. An IUD may fall out or move out of place, but this is rare.

If you have any questions about the Copper T IUD, ask your healthcare provider.

Call your healthcare provider or clinic if you have any of the following PAINS:

- P - Period late; abnormal spotting or bleeding
- A- Abdominal pain, pain with intercourse
- I - Infection exposure (STD), abnormal vaginal discharge
- N - Not feeling well, fever, chills
- S - String is missing, shorter, or longer

I have read and understand the information above.

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____

The client has been counseled, provided with the appropriate informational material, and understands the content of both.

Counselor/Provider signature: _____ Date: _____

Print counselor/provider name: _____

Name of patient: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Chart #: _____

Interpreter: _____