



## CONSENT FOR AN IUD (INTRAUTERINE DEVICE)

### What is an IUD?

An IUD (intrauterine device) is a small piece of plastic, shaped like a "T" that is used to prevent pregnancy. It is inserted into the uterus by a healthcare provider and can last for 5 to 10 years.

### How does an IUD work?

An IUD causes changes in your body that kill sperm or make them less active. Some IUDs also release hormones which help keep sperm out of the uterus.

### What are the different kinds of IUDs?

There are 2 types of IUDs available in the United States:

#### Copper T IUD

This is the most commonly used IUD and it lasts for up to 10 years. For every 100 women using this type of IUD, fewer than 1 per year will get pregnant

#### Levonorgestrel IUD (Mirena)

This IUD contains the hormone levonorgestrel. It lasts for 5 years. For every 100 women using this type of IUD, fewer than 1 per year will get pregnant.

Each type of IUD has a string on the end that allows a woman to check that the IUD is in place.

### Who can use an IUD?

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

- are pregnant;
- had an infection 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 breast cancer;
- have had cervicitis, endometritis, or PID (pelvic inflammatory disease) in the last three months;
- have multiple sex partners and are at risk for an STD (sexually transmitted disease);
- have an STD or have had an STD in the last three months (including HIV/AIDS);
- had cancer of the trophoblastic cells during pregnancy;
- have an irregularly shaped uterus, which makes it difficult to insert an IUD;
- have liver tumors, active hepatitis, jaundice, or severe cirrhosis;
- 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.

Do IUDs 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 an 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 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 IUDs, 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: \_\_\_\_\_