



**Patient Management: *Clinician Call Back System***

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content:	Frequently Asked Questions_ Condoms

**Overview**

This document details the most frequently asked questions by CHOICE participants regarding condoms and provides an answer guide for staff. In this table, green represents questions which CHOICE receptionists were trained to answer, yellow represents questions which the CHOICE contraceptive counselors and staff nurse were trained to answer (in addition to the green questions). There were no questions regarding condoms requiring a Clinician call back. Refer to the [Clinician Call Back System Overview](#) for further information.

KEY: STAFF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	
	Receptionists
	Contraceptive Counselors, Staff Nurse

<b><i>How effective are condoms at preventing pregnancy?</i></b>	Condoms are typically about 82% effective, meaning that 18 out of 100 women using just condoms will get pregnant during the first year of use.
<b><i>What are the health benefits to using condoms?</i></b>	Other than abstinence, condoms are the only method of birth control that can also help protect against sexually transmitted infections.
<b><i>What can I do if I'm allergic to latex?</i></b>	You can use latex-free condoms or female condoms.
<b><i>The condom broke when my partner and I were having sex last night. What should I do?</i></b>	It would be a good idea for you or your partner to visit your local pharmacy and buy emergency contraception. You can take EC up to five days after an act of unprotected sex, although the sooner you take it the better. You may also want to make an appointment to get tested for sexually transmitted infections.

<b><i>What's the correct way to use a condom?</i></b>	<p>We like to use the <b>OPRAH</b> acronym to describe how to properly place a condom:</p> <p><b>O</b>pen the condom at the end where the notch is, being careful not to rip the condom.</p> <p><b>P</b>inch the tip of the condom to create a reservoir</p> <p><b>R</b>oll the condom down the length of the penis</p> <p><b>A</b>nd</p> <p><b>H</b>old the condom in place after ejaculation to prevent it from slipping and spilling any semen.</p>
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	<p>A few other tips:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Always check the condom package for an expiration date before using.</li> <li>2. Check for an air bubble in the package. If you don't feel one, the condom could be damaged and you should throw it away and get a new one.</li> <li>3. Use a silicone or water-based lubricant. Oil-based lubricants such as baby oil and massage oils will break down the latex.</li> </ol>
<p><b><i>Can I use a female condom and a male condom to further protect myself from getting a STI or getting pregnant?</i></b></p>	<p>No. Using them both at the same time can cause them to stick together or rip, thus defeating the purpose.</p>
<p><b><i>Is using two condoms at once even better than using one?</i></b></p>	<p>No. Using two condoms at the same time can cause friction, increasing the chance of the condoms breaking. You should use one condom for each new act of sexual intercourse.</p>