

NEW HIV PREVENTION CHOICES FOR WOMEN

Women and girls continue to bear the global burden of HIV/AIDS. And in sub-Saharan Africa:

Nearly 60% of all new adult infections are among women

Young women ages 15-24 are more than twice as likely to acquire as young men



What is the monthly dapivirine ring?

The dapivirine ring is a long-acting vaginal ring that a woman can use to reduce the risk of HIV transmission during vaginal sex.

The ring:

- Is woman-controlled
- Reduces but does not eliminate HIV risk
- Has no safety concerns and minimal side effects in studies to date
- Can be used discreetly
- Is easy to store – does not require refrigeration

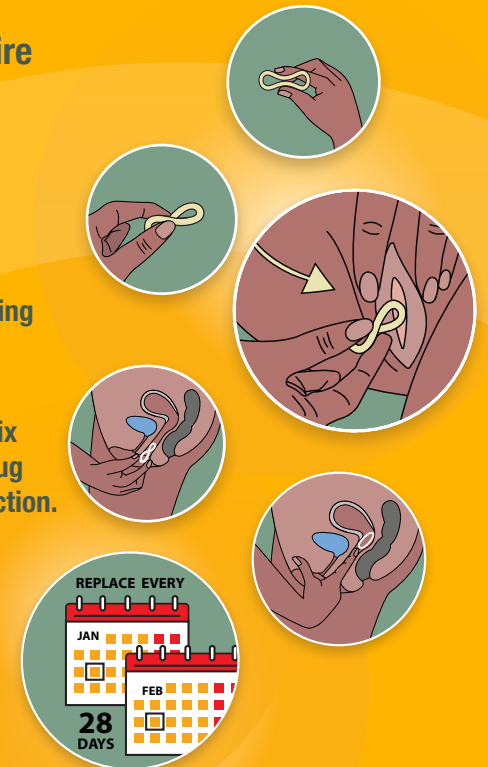
How the ring works

A woman would insert the flexible silicone ring herself and replace it with a new one each month.

The ring sits inside the vagina near the cervix where it slowly releases an antiretroviral drug called dapivirine at the site of potential infection.

Dapivirine works by blocking HIV's ability to make copies of itself inside healthy cells.

It is important that the ring is left in place for the full month to ensure that risk reduction is achieved.



WOMEN URGENTLY NEED NEW OPTIONS FOR HIV PREVENTION, SO THEY CAN CHOOSE ONE THAT BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

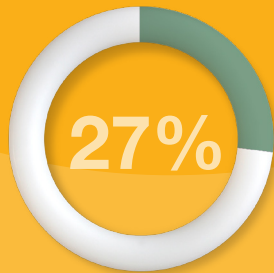
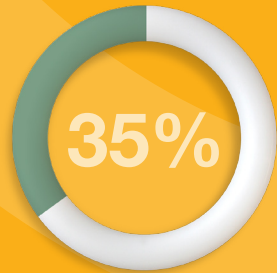
THE DAPIVIRINE RING: A LONG-ACTING HIV PREVENTION OPTION

How safe is the ring?

No safety concerns have been seen in studies to date. Side effects such as urinary tract infection, vaginal discharge and itching were mild to moderate. However they were resolved with no interruptions in ring use.

How effective is the ring?

The ring was shown to reduce HIV risk by 35% in one large randomized clinical trial and by 27% in another. Later open label studies saw increased ring use and suggested greater risk reduction—by about half overall.



Important points about the ring

- **The ring must stay inserted to do its job.** A woman can go about her daily activities as usual. There is no need to remove the ring during menstruation, and the ring can be used with a tampon. There is also no need to remove the ring during sex, and it is rarely felt by either partner during sex.
- **The ring does not eliminate the risk of HIV infection,** and it does not prevent other STIs or unintended pregnancy, so it should be used with either a male or female condom.
- **The ring would be an additional HIV prevention choice.** As a woman-controlled and long-acting method, the monthly ring could be an important option for women who are either unable to use higher efficacy methods, such as daily oral PrEP, or who choose not to do so.
- **The ring can also be used with other forms of contraception,** but should not be used with contraceptive vaginal rings, diaphragms, menstrual cups or cervical caps.

The ring's status

The dapivirine ring received a positive scientific opinion in July 2020 from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for use among women ages 18 and older in developing countries.

The product also received a recommendation from the World Health Organization in 2021. IPM is seeking country regulatory approvals in sub-Saharan Africa. The ring is also currently under review by the US Food and Drug Administration.

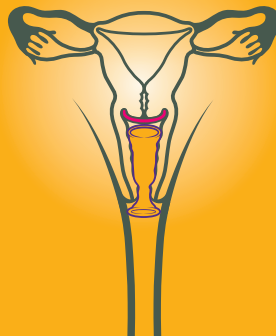
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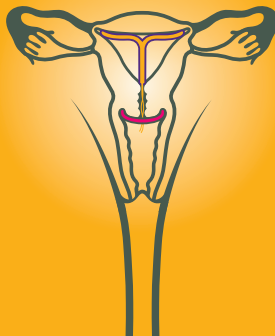
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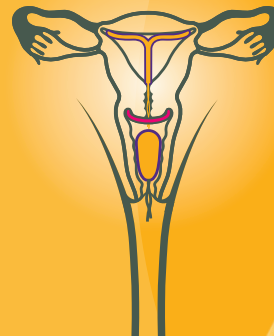
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Position of the female condom in relation to the vaginal ring



Position of an intrauterine contraceptive device (IUCD) relative to vaginal ring



Position of a tampon, IUCD and vaginal ring





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WOMEN NEW
HIV PREVENTION
CHOICES**

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