- **Key Facts About Emergency Contraception**

  Emergency Contraception is a safe and effective way to prevent pregnancy after sex.

- **Consider using emergency contraception if:**
  - You didn’t use a contraceptive during sex, or You think your contraceptive didn’t work.

- **What are Emergency Contraceptive Pills?**
  - Emergency contraceptive pills contain the same medication as regular birth control pills and help to prevent pregnancy.

- **There are three basic types of emergency contraceptive pills:**
  - Plan B™ progestin-only pills
  - Preven™ estrogen/progestin pills
  - High doses of regular oral contraceptive (birth control) pills.

- **Pills should be started within 120 hours (five days) after unprotected sex.**

  Emergency contraceptive pills require two doses:
  - First dose within 120 hours of unprotected intercourse
  - Second dose 12 hours after the first dose

  Emergency contraceptive pills are more effective the sooner they are taken.

- **Safe and effective**
  - Progestin-only pills reduce the risk of pregnancy by 89%.*
  - Combined estrogen/progestin pills reduce the risk of pregnancy by 75%.*
  - For regular, long-term use, other contraceptive methods are more effective.
  - Emergency contraceptive pills do not protect against sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.
    - *Pregnancy risk reduction based on one-time use.

- **Won’t cause an abortion.**
  - Emergency contraceptive pills are NOT the same as RU-486 (the abortion pill).
  - Emergency contraceptive pills are not effective after implantation; they cannot interrupt an established pregnancy.
  - Won’t harm a developing fetus.
  - If emergency contraceptive pills are mistakenly taken during pregnancy, they will not harm the developing fetus.
  - Using emergency contraceptive pills will not affect a woman’s ability to become pregnant in the future.

- **Women can keep pills at home in case of emergency.**
  - Many women find it convenient to have emergency contraceptive pills on hand in case of an emergency.
  - Medical providers or your pharmacist can provide emergency contraceptive pills before they are needed.

- **Medical follow up after taking Emergency Contraceptive Pills.**
  - If you don’t get a normal period within 3 weeks, you can use an at home pregnancy test to find out if you are pregnant.
  - You may also visit your healthcare provider to check to see if you are pregnant.
  - It is important to visit your doctor or clinic if you need a regular birth control method or services to prevent sexually transmitted infections or AIDS.