If you had sex and not used any reliable contraception...

Use EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION

- Copper IUD
- Most effective
- Inserted within five days after unprotected sex
- Can be kept for long-term contraception
- ELLA tablet
- More effective than Postinor-2
- Should be taken as soon as possible after unprotected sex and within 120 hours
- Postinor-2 tablets
- Should be taken as soon as possible after unprotected sex and within 72 hours

The only methods you can use to protect yourself from sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV:

- Abstinence (no sex)
- 100% effective
- Male CONDOM
- Up to 99% effective if use consistently and correctly

Note: This brochure only provides you with general information about birth control. Please consult the doctor for more information on the individual birth control methods or if you have any concerns.

This information is correct as of January 2024.

Useful telephone numberCentral Appointments6294-405



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Your Guide to Contraception and Sexual Health



Birth Control Methods Available in KKH

	Method	What is it?	Good points	Bad points
LESS EFFECTIVE (76-82%)	Natural/timing	Withdrawal, temperature and calendar chart	No physical side effects	 Need to avoid sex or use condoms during fertile period
	Male condoms	A sheath that covers the penis during sex	No serious side effectsCan help protect from sexually transmitted infection	 May slip off or break Need to withdraw penis from vagina before penis goes soft and avoid spillage of semen during fertile period
EFFECTIVE (91-94%)	Pill	Hormone tablets that need to be taken daily	 Can make periods regular, lighter and less painful Protect from ovarian, womb and colon cancer Fertility returns once you stop taking the pill 	 Small risk of clots, breast and cervical cancer Temporary side effects include headache, mood changes and breast tenderness
	Patch	Hormone stick-on patch that needs to be changed weekly	Can make periods regular, lighter and less painfulFertility returns once you stop using the patch	 Small risk of clots, breast and cervical cancer Temporary side effects include headache, mood changes, breast tenderness and skin irritation
	Injection	Hormone injection that needs to be taken every three months	 May reduce heavy painful periods 	 Periods may stop, be irregular or last longer Periods and fertility may take time to return when stopping the injection Injection cannot be removed when you experience side effects
VERY EFFECTIVE (≥99%)	Intrauterine device (IUD) / Coil	T-shaped device that contains copper or hormone and needs to be replaced every five years (copper IUD)/ eight years (hormonal IUD)	 Hormonal IUD can make periods lighter, shorter and less painful Copper IUD is non-hormonal and can avoid any potential hormonal side effects Fertility returns once IUD is removed 	 Hormone IUD may cause irregular spotting in the first six months Copper IUD can make periods heavier and more painful Small chance of infection after insertion (first 20 days) Insertion can be uncomfortable
	Implant	Small hormone rod that is inserted under the skin on your arm and needs to be replaced every three years	• Fertility returns once implant is removed	 Periods may stop, be irregular or last longer Small procedure to fit and remove it Possible side effects include headache, mood changes and breast tenderness
	Female sterilisation	A key-hole surgery to apply clips on your fallopian tubes	• Periods are unaffected (risk of failure 1:200)	 Need general anaesthesia Permanent method Risk of ectopic pregnancy if sterilisation fails
	Male sterilisation	A minor surgery to tie off the sperm cords	• Most effective birth control method (risk of failure 1:2000)	• Will need to be referred to a urologist