

# Contraception LARC Discussion Flow



**C**



## Contraception needs

- Are they sexually active?
- Do they have any plans to get pregnant?
- How important is it for them NOT to get pregnant right now?
- What is their experience with their previous/current contraception?
- What current method of contraception do they use, if any?
- What do they look for when it comes to choosing contraception? Not getting pregnant? As well as minimising problematic periods?

**H**



## How to decide, what's available

- Discuss differences in contraception choices
- Establish knowledge around contraception
- Discuss typical and perfect use
- Discuss benefits with LARC, addressing any myths and misconceptions they may have, and possible adverse events
- Discuss contraindications, special warnings, and precautions

**O**



## Observational questioning

- How busy would they say their life is?
- **Example questions:**
  - When is the last time your phone died because you forgot to charge it?
  - When's the last time you handed your assignments in late?
  - Have you ever required emergency contraception?
  - Have you ever missed an appointment for you current contraception?
  - How many times do you go to the supermarket and forget the one thing you were meant to get?
  - How long have you driven around without screen wash?
  - Have you ever run out of petrol?
  - Have you ever missed a dentist appointment?

**I**



## Inform and advise

- Expand benefits for appropriate patients: efficacy, rapidly reversible, fit and forget
- Simple procedure
- Every 3, 5, or 10 years depending on LARC choice
- Discuss possible adverse events and any concerns they have
- Gain consent and agreement for LARC

**C**



## Concerns and reassurance

- Have appropriate conversation around side effects, dispelling myths and misconceptions
- Share knowledge and clinical experience
- Experience e.g., more patients are opting for LARC methods, and reasons
- Show patient example of LARC (palpater/IUS)

**E**



## Establish where and who to fit

- Decide where the patient wants their implant/IUS/IUD fitted. Book the appointment there and then
- Remember to set realistic expectations about what to expect following insertion of implant/IUS/IUD
- Counsel patient around bleeding changes
- In the event of any side effects, patients should speak to their doctor, pharmacist, or nurse

Please see [NEXPLANON® \(etonogestrel\) Prescribing Information](#) on the next page.

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# Prescribing Information

**Nexplanon®**  
Etonogestrel

## PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Refer to Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) before Prescribing

**Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. Adverse events should also be reported to Organon, UK (Tel: 0208 1593593). By clicking the above link you will leave the website and be taken to the MHRA website.**

**PRESENTATION:** Preloaded applicator with a radiopaque non-biodegradable implant containing 68mg of etonogestrel.

**USES:** Contraception. Safety and efficacy have been established in women between 18 and 40 years of age.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:** One implant should be inserted subdermally overlying the triceps muscle of the non-dominant upper arm. Exclude pregnancy prior to insertion. Each implant can be left in place for 3 years. Broken implants should be removed. Nexplanon should only be inserted or removed by HCPs who have completed training for the use of the Nexplanon applicator and are familiar with the insertion and removal technique. Insertion, removal and replacement instructions must be strictly followed. Videos demonstrating insertion and removal procedures are available at [www.nexplanonvideos.eu](http://www.nexplanonvideos.eu)

**CONTRA-INDICATIONS:** Active venous thromboembolic disorder, known or suspected sex steroid sensitive malignancies, presence/history of liver tumours (benign or malignant), presence/history of severe hepatic disease with current abnormal liver function tests, undiagnosed vaginal bleeding, hypersensitivity to ingredients.

**PRECAUTIONS:** During the use of combined oral contraceptives (OC), the risk of having breast cancer is slightly increased possibly due to an earlier diagnosis, biological effects of OC or a combination of both. A similar increased risk of breast cancer diagnosis may be seen in users of progestagen only preparations. Epidemiological studies have associated combined OC (oestrogen and progestogen) use with an increased incidence of venous thromboembolism (VTE, DVT and PE) and arterial thromboembolism (ATE, myocardial infarction and ischaemic strokes). Limited epidemiological data do not suggest an increased risk of VTE or ATE in women using the implant; however, there have been post-marketing reports of VTE and ATE. Assess risk factors, for VTE and ATE. Remove following thrombosis and consider removal with long-term immobilisation. Advise patients with a history of thromboembolic disorders of the possibility of recurrence. Depressed mood and depression can be associated with hormonal contraceptive use. Depression can be a risk factor for suicidal behaviour and suicide. Advise women to contact their physician if they develop mood changes and depressive symptoms.

Refer to a specialist if acute or chronic disturbances in liver function occur. Discontinue Nexplanon use if sustained hypertension develops or if there is a significant increase in BP which cannot be adequately controlled. Monitor diabetic women during the first months as there may be an effect on peripheral insulin resistance and glucose tolerance. Women with a tendency to chloasma should avoid sun or UV radiation whilst using Nexplanon. Consider earlier replacement of the implant in heavier women. Ovarian cysts may occur and disappear spontaneously. Exclude ectopic pregnancy in the event of abdominal pain and amenorrhoea. Conditions which have reported during pregnancy and during the use of sex steroids include jaundice and/or pruritis related to cholestasis; gallstone formation; porphyria; SLE; HUS; Sydenham's chorea; herpes gestationis; otosclerosis-related hearing loss and (hereditary) angioedema. Changes in the menstrual bleeding pattern are likely. Expulsion may occur if the implant is not inserted correctly or with local inflammation. Rarely the implant may migrate from the insertion site possibly due to deep insertions or intravascular insertion. Localisation of the implant may then be more difficult and removal may require a minor surgical procedure with a larger incision or a surgical procedure in an operating theatre.

In cases where the implant has migrated to the pulmonary artery endovascular or surgical procedures may be needed for removal. Advise patients to seek medical advice if implant cannot be palpated at any time. External forces may cause broken or bent implants, broken implant fragments may migrate. The release rate of etonogestrel may be slightly increased when an implant is broken or bent "in situ". No clinically meaningful effects expected. Broken or bent implants must be removed in their entirety.

**Drug interactions:** The prescribing information of concomitant medications should be consulted to identify potential interactions. Substances that induce microsomal enzymes (e.g. barbiturates, bosentan, carbamazepine, phenytoin, primidone, rifampicin, and HIV/HCV medication like ritonavir, efavirenz, boceprevir, nevirapine and possibly also felbamate, griseofulvin, oxcarbazepine, topiramate and products containing the herbal remedy St. John's Wort (*hypericum perforatum*) can reduce the efficacy of hormonal contraceptives.

Concomitant administration of strong (e.g. ketoconazole, itraconazole, clarithromycin) or moderate (e.g. fluconazole, diltiazem, erythromycin) CYP3A4 inhibitors may increase the serum concentrations of progestins, including etonogestrel.

Nexplanon may affect the metabolism of other active substances e.g. ciclosporin and lamotrigine.

**Pregnancy and Lactation:** Not indicated during pregnancy. Exclude pregnancy prior to insertion. If pregnancy occurs the implant should be removed. Nexplanon may be used during lactation; growth and development of the child should be carefully followed.

### SIDE EFFECTS: Refer to Summary of Product Characteristic for complete information on side effects

*Frequencies can be defined as: Very Common (≥1/10); Common = ≥ 1/100 <1/10; Uncommon = ≥1/1,000 < 1/100; Rare = ≥1/10,000 < 1/1,000; Very rare = < 1/10,000; not known=cannot be estimated from the available data.*

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**Very Common:** Vaginal infection, headache, acne, irregular menstruation, weight increase, breast tenderness and pain. **Common:** Alopecia, dizziness, depressed mood, affect lability, nervousness, nausea, flatulence, libido decreased, increased appetite, abdominal pain, ovarian cyst, dysmenorrhoea, flu-like illness, pain, fatigue, weight decrease, insertion site pain or reaction and hot flushes. **Not known:** During post marketing surveillance anaphylactic reactions and angioedema have also been reported.

Insertion of the implant may cause vasovagal reactions (such as hypotension, dizziness, or syncope).

Expulsion or migration of the implant has been reported, including rarely to the chest wall. Rarely implants have been found within the vasculature including the pulmonary artery which may cause chest pain and/or dyspnea or maybe asymptomatic.

**Overdose** Remove previous implant before inserting a new one. There are no data on overdose with etonogestrel.

**PACKAGE QUANTITIES AND BASIC NHS COST** 1 x implant £83.43

**Marketing Authorisation number** PL 00025/0563

### Marketing Authorisation holder

Organon Pharma (UK) Limited  
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London EC2A 3NP  
United Kingdom

**Legal Category:** POM

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