

Potential Bleeding Changes With NEXPLANON: How to Help Set Expectations

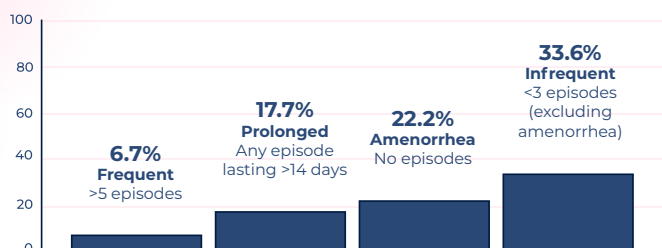


NEXPLANON, a progestin-only birth control, is likely to change patients' bleeding patterns, which can impact their decisions about starting or keeping an implant. It's important to¹:



Consider key outcomes from clinical studies

Percentages of 90-day intervals with these bleeding patterns during the first 2 years of use in clinical trials of IMPLANON® (etonogestrel implant) non-radiopaque^a



^aBased on 3,315 recording periods in 780 patients, excluding the first 90 days after implant insertion. Bleeding/spotting episode = one or more consecutive days during which bleeding or spotting occurred.²



Help set patients' expectations about potential bleeding changes

Consider providing patients with **plain language explanations**, eg, you can say "no bleeding or spotting" instead of "amenorrhea."³

Use your hand to convey that:

1 in 5 women experienced frequent and/or prolonged bleeding.



1 in 5 women experienced no bleeding and/or spotting.

SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: RISK OF COMPLICATIONS DUE TO IMPROPER INSERTION and REMOVAL

Improper insertion of NEXPLANON increases the risk of complications.

Proper training prior to first use of NEXPLANON can minimize the risk of improper NEXPLANON insertion.

Because of the risk of complications due to improper insertion and removal NEXPLANON is available only through a restricted program under a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) called the NEXPLANON REMS.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- NEXPLANON should not be used in women who have known or suspected pregnancy; current or past history of thrombosis or thromboembolic disorders; liver tumors or active liver disease; undiagnosed abnormal uterine bleeding; known or suspected breast cancer, personal history of breast cancer, or other progestin-sensitive cancer, now or in the past; or allergy to any component of NEXPLANON.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

Risk of Complications Due to Improper Insertion and Removal

Complications of insertion and removal

- Palpate immediately after insertion to ensure proper placement. Undetected failure to insert the implant may lead to unintended pregnancy.
- Insertion and removal-related complications that may occur include pain, paresthesia, bleeding, hematoma, scarring, or

infection. If NEXPLANON is inserted too deeply (intramuscular or intrafascial), neural or vascular injury may occur.

- There have been postmarketing reports of implants located within the vessels of the arm and the pulmonary artery; in these cases, endovascular or surgical procedures may be needed for removal.
- Implant removal may be difficult or impossible if the implant is not inserted correctly, inserted too deeply, not palpable, encased in fibrous tissue, or has migrated. If at any time the implant cannot be palpated, it should be localized, and removal is recommended. When an implant is removed, it is important to remove it in its entirety.
- Failure to remove the implant may result in continued effects of etonogestrel, such as compromised fertility, ectopic pregnancy, or persistence or occurrence of a drug-related adverse event.

Broken or Bent Implants

- Cases of breakage or bending of implants while inserted within a patient's arm have been reported. Cases of migration of a broken implant fragment within the arm have also occurred. These cases may be related to external forces, e.g., manipulation of the implant or contact sports. The release rate of etonogestrel may be slightly increased in a broken or bent implant, based on in vitro data.

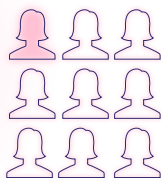
NEXPLANON REMS

- NEXPLANON is only available through a restricted program under a REMS called NEXPLANON REMS because of the risk of complications due to improper insertion and removal. Notable requirements of the NEXPLANON REMS include the following:

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Key outcomes (continued)



In clinical studies, **11.1% of women discontinued treatment** because of changes in their bleeding pattern.^a

For many women, the bleeding pattern experienced during the **first 3 months of using NEXPLANON is broadly predictive** of the future bleeding pattern.^a

^aData collected from clinical trials of IMPLANON[®] (etonogestrel implant) non-radiopaque.



Set patients' expectations (continued)

Explain that the efficacy of NEXPLANON was the same regardless of bleeding pattern.

Encourage your patients to **contact you** if they experience a side effect that they are not comfortable with so you can **discuss options** for management.^{1,3}

Setting expectations on potential bleeding changes and working together with your patients may help provide the best solutions for their care.^{1,3}

SELECTED SAFETY INFORMATION (continued)

NEXPLANON REMS (continued)

- Healthcare providers must be certified with the program by enrolling and completing training on the proper insertion and removal of NEXPLANON prior to first use.
- Pharmacies must be certified with the program and must only dispense NEXPLANON to certified healthcare providers who dispense NEXPLANON for insertion.
- Wholesalers and distributors must be registered with the program and must only distribute to certified pharmacies and certified healthcare providers.

Further information is available at www.NEXPLANONREMS.com and 1-833-697-7367.

Changes in Menstrual Bleeding Patterns

- After starting NEXPLANON, women are likely to have changes in their menstrual bleeding patterns, which can include changes in frequency, intensity, or duration. Abnormal bleeding should be evaluated as needed to exclude pathologic conditions or pregnancy. In clinical studies of the non-radiopaque etonogestrel implant, the most common reason for discontinuation was changes in bleeding patterns (11.1%).

Ectopic Pregnancies

- Be alert to the possibility of an ectopic pregnancy in women using NEXPLANON who become pregnant or complain of lower abdominal pain.

Thrombotic and Other Vascular Events

- There have been postmarketing reports of serious arterial thrombotic and venous thromboembolic events, including cases of pulmonary emboli (some fatal), deep vein thrombosis, myocardial infarction, and strokes, in women using etonogestrel implants. Assess women with known risk factors. NEXPLANON should be removed if thrombosis occurs.
- NEXPLANON should not be used prior to 21 days postpartum due to risk of thromboembolism.

- Women with a history of thromboembolic disorders should be made aware of the possibility of a recurrence.
- In case of long-term immobilization, consider removing NEXPLANON.

ADDITIONAL WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS AND ADVERSE REACTIONS

- Remove NEXPLANON if jaundice occurs or blood pressure rises significantly and becomes uncontrolled.
- Monitor prediabetic and diabetic women using NEXPLANON.
- Observe women with a history of depressed mood. Consider removing NEXPLANON in patients who become significantly depressed.
- The most common adverse reactions (≥5%) reported in 3-year clinical trials were headache (24.9%), vaginitis (14.5%), weight increase (13.7%), acne (13.5%), breast pain (12.8%), abdominal pain (10.9%), and pharyngitis (10.5%). In a separate clinical trial to assess contraceptive efficacy and safety of NEXPLANON beyond 3 years, up to 5 years, a similar adverse reaction profile was observed as in Years 1 through 3. The most frequently reported adverse reaction >5% was intermenstrual bleeding (5.4%).

DRUG INTERACTIONS AND USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- Drugs or herbal products that induce enzymes, including CYP3A4, may decrease the effectiveness of NEXPLANON or increase breakthrough bleeding.
- Rule out pregnancy before inserting NEXPLANON.**
- NEXPLANON does not protect against HIV or other STDs.

Before prescribing NEXPLANON, please read the Prescribing Information, including Boxed Warning. The Patient Information also is available.

References:

- Villavicencio J, Allen RH. Unscheduled bleeding and contraceptive choice: increasing satisfaction and continuation rates. *Open Access J Contracept*. 2016;7:43-52. doi:10.2147/OAJC.S85565
- Organon. Data on File.
- Curtis KM, Jatlaoui TC, Tepper NK, et al. U.S. selected practice recommendations for contraceptive use, 2016. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. 2016;65(4):1-66. doi:10.15585/mmwr.r6504a1