



Women's Group of Franklin

What to expect after an IUD insertion

1. Your provider used a cleanser on your cervix to prevent infection. This is usually an orange-brown color. You may have a discharge of this color for up to 48 hours after the procedure.
2. Light bleeding is expected immediately after an IUD insertion due to the insertion procedure causing irritation to your cervix and the lining of the uterus.
3. Cramping is common for a few days after IUD insertion.
4. Irregular menstrual bleeding is to be expected in many cases after IUD insertion. This can last for several months. Your period can be on time or at a totally different time. Some people do not have periods at all as a side effect of the IUD. You can have light bleeding on and off or even have bleeding every day. In general, any type of bleeding pattern can be seen after IUD insertion in the first 3 months. Once you enter the fourth month after insertion, the pattern should be more regular: either no bleeding, regular periods, or random spotting. If you feel your bleeding has not become more predictable by the third month then you should discuss options with your provider on trying to improve the bleeding pattern in you.
5. You should call your provider if you have any of the following within 2 days of IUD insertion: Severe pain in your vagina or uterus, foul-smelling or heavy yellow discharge, heavy bleeding (changing a pad every hour or sooner due to complete soaking of pad), inability to urinate, fever (temperature over 100.5 degrees or persistent temperature over 99.5 continuously for 6 or more hours without any other obvious cause).
6. Your IUD is immediately effective for birth control. You do not have a waiting period prior to being able to have intercourse. However, some patients are sore for a day or two after IUD insertion and this is normal.
7. Your IUD does not control your hormones so you may still get hormonal symptoms around the time of your period. These include breast tenderness, irritability, moodiness, blues, cramps, and increased vaginal discharge.
8. Your IUD does not protect you against sexually transmitted diseases. Have your partner wear a condom if you are unsure.