



State of New Jersey  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

PO BOX 360  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

TAHESHA L. WAY  
*Lt. Governor*

[www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

JEFFREY A. BROWN  
*Acting Commissioner*

**CONTROL NUMBER: 2025-003**

**A) AUTHORITY**

This standing order is issued by the Deputy Commissioner of the Public Health Services Branch of the New Jersey Department of Health in his official capacity authorizing pharmacists practicing in the State of New Jersey and licensed by the New Jersey Board of Pharmacy, in accordance with their scope of practice, to dispense Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved over the counter (OTC) Emergency Contraceptive (EC) to an individual physically presenting to a pharmacist in the State of New Jersey.

This standing order may be used when an individual's insurance will not otherwise cover a claim for the emergency contraceptive absent a prescription for the medication.

**B) PURPOSE**

The right to reproductive choice, which extends to contraception access, including EC, is a fundamental right protected by the New Jersey Constitution. Moreover, access to reproductive health services, such as contraception, is an important public health initiative as it allows individuals to make appropriate family planning decisions in a manner that promotes their health and well-being. Accordingly, this standing order effectuates this fundamental right and critical public health initiative by removing insurance coverage barriers, including Medicaid barriers, that may inhibit an individual's ability to obtain safe, effective OTC emergency contraception.

**C) PROCEDURES**

**1. Indication and Eligibility**

**Indication:**

ECs are indicated for pregnancy prevention for individuals of reproductive age (regardless of when the individual presents during the menstrual cycle) following:

- a. Unprotected intercourse; and/or
- b. Known or suspected contraceptive failure (e.g., slipped, broken or leaked condom; delayed Depo-Provera injection; missed one or more oral contraceptive pills; IUD partially or totally expelled; withdrawal failure, among others); and/or
- c. sexual assault or reproductive coercion.

Given that the efficacy of emergency contraceptives is based on timely administration, an advance supply of emergency contraceptives can be provided with instructions for future use.

Note: EC does not protect against sexually transmitted infection, including HIV.

**Eligibility:**

Any person who can become pregnant, desires EC, and who does not have a current active prescription from another provider or source for EC.

**c. Order to Dispense**

- a. Assess patient indications for EC as described above.
- b. If indicated, dispense one of the following products based upon preference and availability:

**Levonorgestrel tablet, 1.5 mg**

Dispense: 1 pack

Refill: PRN

Directions for use: Use as directed on the package and read the medication drug facts on the package labeling and the package insert for information on side effects, warnings and precautions, drug interactions and contradictions.

**Any other progestin-only OTC oral EC medication commercially available and FDA approved for contraception**

Dispense: 1 pack

Refill: PRN

Direction for use: Use as directed on the package and read the medication drug facts on the package labeling and the package insert for information on side effects, warning and precautions, drug interactions and contradictions.

**THIS STANDING ORDER DOES NOT COVER EC WITH ULIPRISTAL AETATE.**

**d. Emergency Contraceptive Education**

The individual should be instructed to use the medication as directed and to read the medication drug facts on the package labeling and the package insert for information on side effects, warnings and precautions, drug interactions and contradictions.

The pharmacist may inform the Individual that information on contraception, reproductive rights, health care coverage and services, and other resources can be found at the New Jersey Reproductive Health Information Hub, <https://www.nj.gov/health/reproductivehealth/>, and may inform the individual of the Department of Health's standing order for self-administered hormonal contraceptive, [https://www.nj.gov/health/reproductivehealth/documents/Standing\\_Order\\_Hormonal\\_Contraceptives\\_May\\_2024.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/reproductivehealth/documents/Standing_Order_Hormonal_Contraceptives_May_2024.pdf)

**e. Insurance and Billing**

For insurance coverage and billing for the dispensed FDA approved OTC emergency contraceptive, the pharmacy will request the individual's insurance information. While the pharmacy will obtain the individual's insurance information, this standing order does not guarantee insurance coverage as insurance coverage and dispensing limits for OTC emergency contraceptives vary based on insurance policies and individual plans.

**D) LIMITATIONS**

This standing order does not establish the New Jersey Department of Health, or its clinicians, or the dispensing pharmacy staff as a healthcare provider for the individual. Individuals seeking medical advice on reproductive healthcare should contact a primary care provider. For information on locating reproductive healthcare services in New Jersey please visit: <https://www.nj.gov/health/reproductivehealth/find-services/>

**E) EXPIRATION AND REVIEW**

This standing order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force and effect until modified, supplemented, superseded, or rescinded.

**New Jersey Department of Health**  
**Issuing Official:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/25/2025

Novneet Sahu, MD  
Deputy Commissioner  
Public Health Services  
NPI Number: 1114284585  
NJ License Number: 25MA10139800