

Regimen	Formulation	Timing of use after unprotected sexual intercourse	Access	FDA labeled for use as emergency contraception
Selective progesterone receptor modulator	1 tablet, containing 30 mg of ulipristal acetate	Up to 5 days	Requires a prescription	Yes
Progestin only	1 tablet, containing 1.5 mg of levonorgestrel 2 tablets, each containing 0.75 mg of levonorgestrel	Up to 3 Days Up to 3 days	Available over the counter without age restriction Available over the counter to those 17 years and older with photo identification	Yes
Combined progestin-estrogen pills	A variety of formulations can be used*	Up to 5 days	Required a prescription	No**
Copper IUD***	N/A	Up to 5 days	Requires office visit and insertion by a clinician.	No**

Abbreviations: FDA, US Food and Drug Administration; IUD, intrauterine device; N/A, not applicable

Emergency contraception is best used as soon as possible after unprotected sex.

*A variety of formulations of combined oral contraceptives can be used for emergency contraception. For a list of appropriate formulations, see <http://ec.princeton.edu/questions/dose.html#dose>.

**Although these methods are not FDA labeled for use as emergency contraception, they have been found to be safe and effective when used for emergency contraception and can be used off-label for this indication.

***The copper IUD is the most effective method of emergency contraception.