

3.1A U.S. MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY CHART –ENGLISH

SUMMARY CHART OF U.S. MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CONTRACEPTIVE USE

| Condition | Sub-Condition | Cu-IUD | | LNG-IUD | | Implant | | DMPA | | POP CHC | | CHC | |
|--|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C |
| Age | | Menarche to <20 yrs:2 | Menarche to <20 yrs:2 | Menarche to <18 yrs:1 | Menarche to <18 yrs:2 | Menarche to <18 yrs:1 | Menarche to <18 yrs:2 | Menarche to <18 yrs:1 | Menarche to <18 yrs:2 | Menarche to <18 yrs:1 | Menarche to <18 yrs:2 | Menarche to <40 yrs:1 | Menarche to <40 yrs:1 |
| | | ≥20 yrs:1 | ≥20 yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:2 | 18-45yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:2 | 18-45yrs:1 | 18-45yrs:2 | ≥40 yrs:1 | ≥40 yrs:1 |
| Anatomical abnormalities | a) Distorted uterine cavity | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | b) Other abnormalities | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anemias | a) Thalassemia | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | b) Sickle cell disease‡ | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | c) Iron-deficiency anemia | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Benign ovarian tumors | (including cysts) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Breast disease | a) Undiagnosed mass | 1 | 2 | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* |
| | b) Benign breast disease | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | c) Family history of cancer | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | d) Breast cancer‡ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Current | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| | ii) Past and no evidence of current disease for 5 years | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Breastfeeding | a) <21 days postpartum | | | | | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 4* | 4* |
| | b) 21 to <30 days postpartum | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) With other risk factors for VTE | | | | | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 3* | 3* |
| | ii) Without other risk factors for VTE | | | | | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 3* | 3* |
| | c) 30-42 days postpartum | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) With other risk factors for VTE | | | | | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 3* | 3* |
| | ii) Without other risk factors for VTE | | | | | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 2* | 2* |
| | d) >42 days postpartum | | | | | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 2* | 2* |
| Cervical cancer | Awaiting treatment | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Cervical ectropion | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Cirrhosis | a) Mild (compensated) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | b) Severe‡ (decompensated) | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| CirCystic fibrosis‡ | | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 2* | 2* | 2* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* |
| Deep venous thrombosis (DVT)/Pulmonary embolism (PE) | a) History of DVT/PE, not receiving anticoagulant therapy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Higher risk for recurrent DVT/PE | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| | ii) Lower risk for recurrent DVT/PE | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| | b) Acute DVT/PE | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| | c) DVT/PE and established anticoagulant therapy for at least 3 months | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Higher risk for recurrent DVT/PE | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| | ii) Lower risk for recurrent DVT/PE | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| | d) Family history (first-degree relatives) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | e) Major surgery | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) With prolonged immobilization | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| | ii) Lower risk for recurrent DVT/PE | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | f) Minor surgery without immobilization | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Depressive disorders | | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* |

Key

1 No restriction (method can be used)

2 Advantages generally outweigh theoretical or proven risks

3 Theoretical or proven risks usually outweigh the advantages

4 Unacceptable health risk (method not to be used)

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|---|---|--------|----|---------|----|--|---|------|---|---------|------|-------------------|---|
| | | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C |
| Diabetes | a) History of gestational disease | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Nonvascular disease | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Non-insulin dependent | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | |
| | ii) Insulin dependent | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | |
| | c) Nephropathy/retinopathy/neuropathy [‡] | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | | 2 | | 3/4* | |
| d) Other vascular disease or diabetes of >20 years' duration [‡] | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | | 2 | | 3/4* | | |
| Dysmenorrhea | Severe | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Endometrial cancer [‡] | | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Endometrial hyperplasia | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Endometriosis | | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Epilepsy [‡] | (see also Drug Interactions) | 1 | | 1 | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| Gallbladder disease | a) Symptomatic | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Treated by cholecystectomy | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | |
| | ii) Medically treated | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | |
| | iii) Current | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | |
| | b) Asymptomatic | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | |
| Gestational trophoblastic disease [‡] | a) Suspected GTD (immediate postevacuation) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Uterine size first trimester | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | ii) Uterine size second trimester | 2* | | 2* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | b) Confirmed GTD | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Undetectable/non-pregnant β-hCG levels | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | ii) Decreasing β-hCG levels | 2* | 1* | 2* | 1* | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | iii) Persistently elevated β-hCG levels or malignant disease, with no evidence or suspicion of intrauterine disease | 2* | 1* | 2* | 1* | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | iv) Persistently elevated β-hCG levels or malignant disease, with evidence or suspicion of intrauterine disease | 4* | 2* | 4* | 2* | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| Headaches | a) Nonmigraine (mild or severe) | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1* | |
| | b) Migraine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i) Without aura (includes menstrual migraine) | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2* | |
| | ii) With aura | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 4* | |
| History of bariatric surgery [‡] | a) Restrictive procedures | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Malabsorptive procedures | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | | COCs: 3 P/R: 1 | |
| History of cholestasis | a) Pregnancy related | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| | b) Past COC related | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | |
| History of high blood pressure during pregnancy | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| History of Pelvic surgery | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| HIV | a) High risk for HIV | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 2* | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) HIV infection | | | | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | i) Clinically well receiving ARV therapy | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | If on treatment, see Drug Interactions | | | | | | | |
| | ii) Not clinically well or not receiving ARV | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | If on treatment, see Drug Interactions | | | | | | | |

Abbreviations: C = continuation of contraceptive method; CHC = combined hormonal contraception (pill, patch, and ring); COC = combined oral contraceptive; Cu-IUD = copper-containing intrauterine device; DMPA = depot medroxyprogesterone acetate; I = initiation of contraceptive method; LNG-IUD = levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device; NA = not applicable; POP = progestin-only pill; P/R = patch/ring; ‡ Condition that exposes a woman to increased risk as a result of pregnancy. *Please see the complete guidance for a clarification to this classification: www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/unintendedpregnancy/USMEC.htm.

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|---|---|--------|----|---------|----|---------|---|------|----|---------|---|-----|---|
| | | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C | I | C |
| Pregnancy | | 4* | | 4* | | NA* | | NA* | | NA* | | NA* | |
| Rheumatoid arthritis | a) On immunosuppressive therapy | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 2/3* | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Not on immunosuppressive therapy | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| Schistosomiasis | a) Uncomplicated | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Fibrosis of the liver [†] | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) | a) Current purulent cervicitis or chlamydial infection or gonococcal infection | 4 | 2* | 4 | 2* | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Vaginitis (including <i>trichomonas vaginalis</i> and <i>bacterial vaginosis</i>) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | c) Other factors relating to STDs | 2* | 2 | 2* | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| Smoking | a) Age <35 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| | b) Age ≥35, <15 cigarettes/day | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | |
| | c) Age ≥35, ≥15 cigarettes/day | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | |
| Solid organ transplantation [‡] | a) Uncomplicated | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | |
| | b) Fibrosis of the liver [‡] | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 2* | |
| Stroke [‡] | History of cerebrovascular accident | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| Superficial venous disorders | a) Varicose veins | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Superficial venous thrombosis (acute or history) | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 3* | |
| Systemic lupus erythematosus [‡] | a) Positive (or unknown) antiphospholipid antibodies | 1* | 1* | 3* | | 3* | | 3* | 3* | 3* | | 4* | |
| | b) Severe thrombocytopenia | 3* | 2* | 2* | | 2* | | 3* | 2* | 2* | | 2* | |
| | c) Immunosuppressive therapy | 2* | 1* | 2* | | 2* | | 2* | 2* | 2* | | 2* | |
| | d) None of the above | 1* | 1* | 2* | | 2* | | 2* | 2* | 2* | | 2* | |
| Thyroid disorders | Simple goiter/ hyperthyroid/hypothyroid | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| Tuberculosis [‡] (see also Drug Interactions) | a) Nonpelvic | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| | b) Pelvic | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | | 1* | |
| Unexplained vaginal bleeding | (suspicious for serious condition) before evaluation | 4* | 2* | 4* | 2* | 3* | | 3* | | 2* | | 2* | |
| Uterine fibroids | | 2 | | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| Valvular heart disease | a) Nonpelvic | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| | b) Pelvic | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | |
| Vaginal bleeding patterns | a) Irregular pattern without heavy bleeding | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| | b) Heavy or prolonged bleeding | 2* | | 1* | 2* | 2* | | 2* | | 2* | | 1* | |
| Viral hepatitis disease | a) Acute or flare | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 3/4 | 2 |
| | b) Carrier/Chronic | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Drug Interactions | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Antiretroviral therapy All other ARV's are 1 or 2 for all methods. | Fosamprenavir (FPV) | 1/2* | 1 | 1/2* | 1 | 2* | | 2* | | 2* | | 3* | |
| Anticonvulsant therapy | a) Certain anticonvulsants (phenytoin, carbamazepine, barbiturates, primidone, topiramate, oxcarbazepine) | 1 | | 1 | | 2* | | 1* | | 3* | | 3* | |
| | b) Lamotrigine | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 3* | |
| Antimicrobial therapy | a) Broad spectrum antibiotics | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | b) Antifungals | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | c) Antiparasitics | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| | d) Rifampin or rifabutin therapy | 1 | | 1 | | 2* | | 1* | | 3* | | 3* | |
| SSRIs | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | |
| St. John's wort | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | |

Updated in 2017. This summary sheet only contains a subset of the recommendations from the U.S. MEC. For complete guidance, see: <http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/unintendedpregnancy/USMEC.htm>. Most contraceptive methods do not protect against sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Consistent and correct use of the male latex condom reduces the risk of STDs and HIV.