



Lakeridge  
Health

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## **MEDICAL DIRECTIVE**

### **Emergency Contraceptive Pill (ECP) for Pregnancy Drug Prophylaxis**

**Approved by/Date: Medical Advisory Committee – June 26, 2012**

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#### **Authorizing physician(s)**

Physician of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Care Centre (DV/SACC)  
Emergency Department Physicians (LH Oshawa Only)

#### **Authorized to who**

Registered Nurses working at the DV/SACC who have been certified as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). Nurses that hold the knowledge, skill and judgment that work within the DV/SACC Program.

#### **Patient Description / Population**

To be offered to any female client within menstruating age, presenting within 120 hours of a suspected or known sexual assault regardless of condom use.

#### **Medical Directive Description/Physician's Order**

Levonorgestrel 0.75 mg, 2 tablets once, orally

#### **Specific conditions/circumstances that must be met before the Directive can be implemented**

- Client must be registered to DV/SACC
- DV/SACC standard sexual assault and health history be completed by the RN in consultation with the client
- Explain the use of ECP to the client, including action
- Last menstrual period was greater than 1 month ago
- Client is not currently pregnant
- Document assessment findings
- Advise client that levonorgestrel has a low incidence of side effects that may include: gastrointestinal disturbance, dizziness, headache, breast tenderness and fatigue
- Advise client to have pregnancy test if period is more than 2 weeks late in starting. Advise client that spotting is not considered a period
- Advise client that there is considerable reduction in effectiveness of levonorgestrel with increased delay between the sexual assault and initiation of treatment

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Originating Committee: Emergency Program Council, March 26, 2012  
Medical Advisory Committee: June 26, 2012

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<b>Time lapse after unprotected intercourse</b>	<b>Effectiveness of Plan B</b>
< 24 Hours	95%
24-48 Hours	85%
49-72 Hours	58%
72-120 Hours	<58%

**Contraindications to the implementation of the Directive**

- Client is allergic to levonorgestrel
- Ongoing undiagnosed abnormal vaginal bleeding of the client pre-sexual assault
- Known or suspected pregnancy

**Identify relevant Delegated Control Act or Added Skill associated with this Directive**

None

**Documentation requirements**

- Document medication administration as per Lakeridge Health Policy
- Document on client treatment and follow up form

**Review/Evaluation Process (how often/by who)**

Review to be done on a biannual basis. Review to be conducted by the DV/SACC Medical Director and the DV/SACC RN

**Related Documents**

None

**References**

- Ontario Network of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centres- Medical Guidelines for HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis for Sexual Assault Survivors (2011)
- Ontario Network of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Treatment Centres- Medical Directives (2011)
- College of Nurses of Ontario (2012)
- [www.paladin-labs.com](http://www.paladin-labs.com) (2012)