

## The IUD

The IUD, (intra-uterine device), is an object that is placed inside the uterus (womb) by a physician. There are two different kinds of IUDs manufactured in the United States today. ParaGard®, manufactured by Duramed Pharmaceuticals, is made of plastic and uses copper as its active ingredient. Mirena®, manufactured by Bayer Health Care Pharmaceuticals, releases the hormone progesterone. Although doctors claim they aren't quite sure how the IUD works, it is clear that the IUD does not prevent ovulation, which means that the woman's body will still produce an egg during her monthly cycle.

When the IUD is put in place, it and the chemical it contains alters the fluids in the womb and the lining of the womb. Even the presence of the IUD irritates the lining. This is not necessarily painful to the woman, but it can have deadly effects on a tiny human being. After this new life begins, the tiny boy or girl must travel to the wall of the womb and implant. Because the IUD alters the wall of the uterus, this tissue becomes inhospitable to the new human being. The tiny child cannot attach to the wall of the womb and get nourishment, so he or she dies. This is abortion.

***WARNING: You may be told that the IUD cannot cause abortion, but that statement is based on the incorrect notion that pregnancy begins when the baby implants in the lining of the womb (about a week after his or her biological beginning). This is dishonest and scientifically false. Don't be misled.***

The IUD is NOT safe! Side effects of the IUD include:

- septic abortion—infection that can cause high fever, endometriosis and other complications
- continuation of pregnancy— dangerous for baby and mother
- ectopic pregnancy—may be fatal if not discovered in time
- ovarian cysts (Mirena)
- pelvic infection, which can lead to sterility
- embedding the IUD in the uterus, which is very painful
- perforation of the uterine wall or cervix
- perforation of the urinary bladder
- heart injury
- spontaneous abortion
- backache
- anemia—decrease in red blood cells causing weakness and lack of energy
- localized pain that persists each time ovulation occurs

***The IUD also offers no protection against sexually transmitted diseases — including AIDS.***