

Post-abortion IUD Placement

Goal: To practice the skill of placing an IUD following an abortion procedure.

Description: Intrauterine devices, or “IUDs”, are small, T-shaped devices that can be placed immediately following an abortion procedure to prevent pregnancy. Either a hormonal IUD or a copper IUD may be used. IUD insertion immediately post-procedure carries the benefit of knowing the patient is not pregnant, masking any post-insertion bleeding with the expected bleeding following an abortion, and increased continuation of use by the patient. While there may be an increased risk of IUD expulsion when placed immediately following an abortion procedure, delaying the insertion is associated with lower rates of IUD use and higher rates of pregnancy.

Following either a manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) or dilation & evacuation (D&E), a provider inserts an IUD device through the cervix and up to the fundus. Then, the device is pulled away slightly to deploy the wings. Finally, the deployed IUD is positioned at the uterine fundus and then strings are trimmed to an appropriate length in the vaginal canal. The device is effective immediately upon placement.

Supplies:

- a. 1 Assembled Pelvic Model (see “Pelvic Model Assembly Guide”), including
 - i. Cervix (see “Cervix Assembly Guide”)
 - ii. PVC Vagina (see “PVC Vagina Assembly Guide”)
 - iii. Silicone Pad (see “Silicone Pad Assembly Guide”)
- b. 1 speculum
- c. 1 tenaculum
- d. 1 IUD insertion kit
- e. 1 void dragon fruit uterus OR void papaya uterus

Steps:

1. Place the speculum into the model and visualize the cervix
2. Use the tenaculum to grasp the anterior lip of the cervix (12 o'clock position)
3. Open the sterile IUD package and push the slider to the furthest position
4. Insert the IUD through the cervix and up to the uterine fundus
5. Pull the inserter back 1.5 cm, then pull the slider back to the mark to deploy the wings
6. Advance the inserter and deployed IUD to the fundus
7. Pull the slider all the way down and remove the inserter from the uterus
8. Trim the strings to appropriate length (2-3 cm)
9. Remove all tools from the model

Performance Checklist

Post-abortion IUD
IUD device properly set
IUD inserter introduced into the uterus and brought to the fundus
Inserter backed by 1.5 cm
Wings deployed
IUD brought to the fundus
Inserter deployed and removed from the uterus
Strings of the IUD trimmed to appropriate length
Instruments removed

Citations:

- *Postabortion IUD use: Safety and Timing*. Ipas. (2021, April 28). Retrieved February 13, 2023, from <https://www.ipas.org/clinical-update/english/postabortion-care/postabortion-iud-use-safety-and-timing/>
- “Society of Family Planning clinical recommendations: contraception after surgical abortion” [https://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824\(18\)30425-6/fulltext](https://www.contraceptionjournal.org/article/S0010-7824(18)30425-6/fulltext)
- “Immediate postabortal insertion of intrauterine devices” by Grimes, D.A. et al. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20556754/>