

A New Birth Control Method: The FemCap

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Objectives: To provide what women want. Women want a new method of birth control that is more natural than hormones, less invasive than the IUD, immediately reversible, does not interrupt spontaneity or reduce sexual pleasure, and is under the control of women.

Design and Methods: Safety, effectiveness and all the characteristics of what women want in a new birth control method were carefully considered in the choice of material and design of the FemCap. The FemCap is a new barrier device that protects the cervix and prevents sperm from entering the uterus. The anatomical design gives the FemCap the appearance of a sailor hat that covers the cervix and the vaginal vault completely. The FemCap was extensively tested and compared with the diaphragm in multicenter, randomized and controlled clinical trials in the USA.

Results: These clinical trials provided an evidence-based demonstration of unsurpassed safety and comparable efficacy to the diaphragm. Acceptability and satisfaction with the FemCap were very high among women who were concerned about health side effects or have contraindication to hormones or the IUD. Additionally, the vast majority of women who have had prior experience with the condom or the diaphragm preferred the FemCap over these methods.

Conclusion: The FemCap fulfills many of the characteristics wanted and needed by women in their choice of a new birth control method.