

Emergency Contraceptives (ECs)



Myth Busters: Providing ECs

MYTH

Levonorgestrel ECs require a prescription in B.C.

TRUTH



As a Schedule 3 medication, **levonorgestrel ECs do not require a prescription**. A person may “self-select” a levonorgestrel EC. The pharmacist enters the claim in the client’s PharmaNet profile for billing purposes.

MYTH

Levonorgestrel ECs are only free for clients as part of a Minor Ailments and Contraception Service (MACS) evaluation

TRUTH



Levonorgestrel ECs are free whether the client:

- “self-selects” levonorgestrel ECs **OR**
- presents a prescription from a health care provider **OR**
- receives the EC as part of a MACS

MYTH

Pharmacists must meet a client in person to provide levonorgestrel EC

TRUTH



Pharmacists may identify a client by phone or another method, using professional judgement and following College of Pharmacists of BC regulations. Identifying a client in person is best practice, but this is not always possible. MACS consultations must be provided in person to claim the MACS fee

MYTH

Pharmacists can only provide one EC at a time

TRUTH



Pharmacists can provide an EC for a client to take immediately and one or more ECs to keep for a later date if they need it