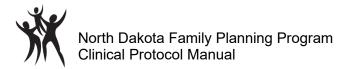


## **Diaphragm Fitting**

DEFINITION	A diaphragm is a female barrier method that is used with a spermicide for contraception. Diaphragms are available by prescription only. The Caya diaphragm is a reusable silicone device molded with a circular nylon spring that comes in one size measuring 75 mm x 67 mm. The older Milex wide seal diaphragm is a dome shaped silicone device with a flexible rim in either an arching or Omniflex style ranging in sizes 60-95 mm.  May include:
SODJECTIVE	1. LMP
	Medical, sexual, and contraceptive use history update, as appropriate
	Must exclude:
	History of toxic shock syndrome (TSS)
	History of allergy or adverse reaction to spermicide
	History of delivery within the last 6 weeks
OBJECTIVE	Must include:
OBJECTIVE	1. Pelvic exam
LABORATORY	No specific laboratory needed
ASSESSMENT	Candidate for diaphragm
PLAN	If fitting an Omniflex diaphragm: fitting rings are necessary (fitting rings and diaphragms
FLAN	are available through the manufacturer or Cooper Surgical).
	a. Estimate correct diaphragm size by measuring distance from posterior vaginal
	vault to the pubic arch. Insert index and middle finger into vagina until the
	middle finger reaches the posterior vault. With your thumb mark the point
	where the index finger touches the pubic bone. Place the diaphragm fitting ring
	rim on the tip of the middle finger, the opposite rim should lay just in front of
	your thumb.
	b. Insert the diaphragm into the vagina with the dome side facing down. The
	diaphragm should rest snugly in the vagina without tension on the vaginal wall.
	The rim should be in contact with the lateral walls and posterior fornix. There
	should be space to insert one fingertip comfortably inside the pubic arch and
	the anterior edge of the diaphragm.
	c. Choose the largest size that is comfortable for the patient. It will be necessary
	to try more than one size to ensure a proper fit.
	d. Have patient bear down while diaphragm is in place and choose the largest size
	that does not dislodge or expel.
	e. Have client demonstrate ability to properly insert and remove diaphragm.
	2. If fitting a Caya diaphragm: single use disposable "Test Fit" sample unit is needed
	(available through the company website).
	a. Have the patient place the Caya sample unit and perform a bimanual exam to
	check fit and placement
	b. Proper placement: Large dome should completely cover the cervix; the back
	rim should be past the cervix and pressed comfortably against the posterior
	fornix; there should be no buckling of the rim which would indicate the Caya
	may be too large; attempt to rotate the unit-there should be no spinning-this would indicate the Caya is too small; the front rim should tuck behind the
	symphysis pubis.  3. If no fitting rings available:
	a. perform bimanual exam and measure the distance between the tip of the middle
	finger of the examining hand when placed against the posterior vaginal fornix and
	the mark on the upper edge of the index finger where it touches the pubic arch.
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Effective Date: September 2021 Last Reviewed: July 2021

Next Scheduled Review: July 2022



	b. the nearest 5 mm to this measurement is the size of the diaphragm.
	c. The patient should RTC after purchasing this diaphragm to check the fit using the
	same maneuvers as outlined for checking the Caya diaphragm.
CLIENT	1. Provide client education handout(s). Review manufacturer's inserts. Review symptoms,
EDUCATION	complications, and danger signs.
	2. Recommend checking the Omniflex wide seal diaphragm fit annually, after 10# weight gain or loss, and after pregnancy. Advise client to bring diaphragm to these visits.
	3. The Caya diaphragm can be used for 2 years and is not impacted by weight or parity.
	4. Diaphragms should not be used in the 6-week postpartum period.
	5. Advise RTC with recurring bladder infections or yeast infections. Refitting with a smaller
	diaphragm may help if UTI's occur after initiating diaphragm use.
	6. RTC with recurrent vaginal or vulvar irritation as this may indicate an allergy or
	sensitivity to the spermicide or diaphragm.
	7. Review safer sex education, as appropriate.
	8. Avoid petroleum-based lubricants.
	9. Avoid diaphragm use during treatment with anti-fungal creams.
	10. Diaphragm with spermicide can be placed 6 hours prior to sexual intercourse and must
	be left in place 6 hours after sexual intercourse. Do not leave in longer than 24 hours.
	(Spermicidal gel is only effective for 6 hours after placement. If the diaphragm is
	inserted for 6 hours or longer before intercourse, you must use an additional dose of
	spermicide.)
	11. If additional acts of sexual intercourse occur add an additional applicator of spermicidal
	gel to the vagina, do not remove diaphragm to put additional gel in the dome.
	12. Wash the diaphragm with a plain soap after use. Do not use talcum powder. Store in a
	clean dry container.
	13. Offer ECP in advance if needed
	14. Educate regarding s/s of toxic shock syndrome, including sudden high fever, chills,
	vomiting, muscle aches and sunburn like rash.
	15. The diaphragm does NOT provide STI protection.
CONSULT/	S/S of Toxic Shock Syndrome
REFER TO	
PHYSICIAN	
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## References:

- 1. Hatcher RA, Trussell J, Nelson A, Cates W, Kowal D, Policar M. Contraceptive Technology. 20 edition. Atlanta GA: Ardent Media, Inc., 2015. Pp.403-406.1. (instructions for previous diaphragms are included in this edition).
- 2. Hatcher RA, Nelson A, Trussell J, Cwiak C, Cason P, Policar MS, Edelman A, Aiken ARA, Marrazzo J, Kowel D, eds. Contraceptive Technology. 21 edition. New York, NY: Ayer Company Publishers, Inc., 2018. pp. 379-383.

Effective Date: September 2021 Last Reviewed: July 2021

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