

Vomiting after administration of an oral hormonal contraceptive or emergency contraceptive pill can result in a loss of effectiveness and a repeat dose may be required. The need for a repeat dose following vomiting is related to the time to absorption of the hormonal constituents in the small intestine: ethinylestradiol/ estradiol and progestogens in the combined pill; progestogens (levonorgestrel or norethisterone) in the progestogen only pill; levonorgestrel or ulipristal acetate in emergency contraceptive pills.

Previous advice on the timeframe between administration of the oral hormonal contraceptive and the time at which vomiting occurs which necessitated a repeat hormonal dose has now been replaced by a more conservative, straightforward recommendation. Previously, a repeat dose was recommended if vomiting occurred within 2 or 3 hours of administration depending on the preparation. This has been replaced by a universal recommendation to repeat a dose of either a combined hormonal or progestogen only pill or ulipristal acetate or levonorgestrel emergency contraception should vomiting occur within 3 hours of administration.



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## State / Territory sexual health and family planning organisations



**Western Australia**  
SHQ (Sexual Health Quarters)  
[shq.org.au](http://shq.org.au)



**Northern Territory**  
Family Planning Welfare  
Association of NT  
[fpwnt.com.au](http://fpwnt.com.au)



**South Australia**  
SHINE SA  
[shinesa.org.au](http://shinesa.org.au)



**Queensland**  
True  
[true.org.au](http://true.org.au)



**ACT**  
Sexual Health and Family  
Planning ACT  
[shfpact.org.au](http://shfpact.org.au)



**New South Wales**  
Family Planning NSW  
[fpnsw.org.au](http://fpnsw.org.au)



**Victoria**  
Family Planning Victoria  
[fpv.org.au](http://fpv.org.au)



**Tasmania**  
Family Planning Tasmania  
[fpt.asn.au](http://fpt.asn.au)