

**Implant COMPLICATIONS - PERSISTENT BLEEDING**

DEFINITION	Persistent bleeding or spotting, causing physical symptoms or emotional dissatisfaction in a client who has a subdermal implant. Clinical trials have demonstrated the bleeding pattern occurring in the first three months of use, tend to predict the bleeding pattern in subsequent months. -
SUBJECTIVE	May include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Description of bleeding patterns.2. Medical, sexual, and contraceptive history update, as appropriate.3. Symptoms of anemia.
OBJECTIVE	May include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mild anemia symptoms.2. Pelvic exam.3. Vital signs.
LABORATORY	May include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Anemia - Hgb/Hct testing.2. Cervicitis/vaginitis testing, as indicated.3. Sensitive urine pregnancy test.
ASSESSMENT	Implant user with persistent bleeding.
PLAN	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide counsel and reassurance on a prn basis. (Research has determined there is no method that has proven to successfully control the bleeding for medium or long term relief.)2. Advise Ibuprofen 400-800 mg. PO tid x 5 days to decrease uterine spasms. If no relief of bleeding with Ibuprofen try:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Low dose COC/vaginal ring to stabilize endometrium.(May provide several cycles to try manage bleeding)3. Discuss removal of Implant if client desires removal.4. Treat anemia per protocol, if appropriate.
CLIENT EDUCATION	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide education handout(s), review symptoms, complications, and danger signals. Emphasize prior to insertion, irregular, and prolonged bleeding is common and rarely clinically significant.2. Discuss alternate method if client desires removal.3. Review safer sex education, if appropriate.4. Recommend that client RTC for annual exam as appropriate and PRN for problems.

Revised; 03/09, 01/11, 2/14

References:

1. Implanon Package Insert , Organon USA Roseland, NJ 2006
2. Dickey, Richard P., (2007).Managing Contraceptive Pill Patients. (13th Ed.).Texas: EMIS, Inc. pp. 96-97, 99.
3. Zieman, M., Hatcher, R.A., Trussell.J., Nelson, A., Cates,W., . Managing Contraception,(20th ed.) Ardent Media. 2001, page 198.