

**FEMALE CONDOM**

DEFINITION	The Reality female condom is a barrier method of contraception. Reality is a polyurethane sheath, which fits inside the vagina. One end anchors the condom against the cervix, while the other end remains outside the vagina after insertion. Reality contains a lubricant and provides full barrier protection of the vagina and part of the vulva. Provides very good protection against STI's as long as the condom does not slip out of place or is torn.
SUBJECTIVE	May include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No history of allergy in client or partner to any component of the condom (polyurethane). Note: Can be used by latex-allergic individuals.2. No known history of vaginal/cervical anomalies.
OBJECTIVE	May include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Vaginal abnormalities which preclude use of device, such as vaginal septum. (Can be used by women with a retroverted uterus.)
LABORATORY	N/A
ASSESSMENT	Candidate for use of female condom.
PLAN	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide client with manufacturer's instructions.2. Discussion with women regarding comfort level with her body. (Use of the female condom requires a woman to be very comfortable with her own body.)
CLIENT EDUCATION	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review client education handout(s). Review manufacturer's inserts. Review symptoms, complications and danger signs. Note: Stress that the female condom cannot be used with a male latex condom.2. Review safer sex education, as appropriate.3. Recommend that client RTC for method evaluation annually and PRN for problems.
CONSULT/ REFER TO PHYSICIAN	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No specific need to refer to physician.

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References:

1. Hatcher, R. A., Trussell, J., Stewart, F., Nelson, A.L., Cates, W., Guest, F., Kowal, D. (2007) Contraceptive Technology. (19th revised ed.). 318-320, 322, 442, 750 Ardent Media New York.