

Controversies about Emergency Contraception: The Scientific Evidence

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Lack of accurate information about emergency contraception (EC) has resulted in widespread myths and misinformation and hampered EC access and use. A great deal of research about EC is now available, but much of the scientific literature is not presented in formats that are conveniently accessible to policy makers, health care professionals, media, and the public. The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health has compiled and summarized the research in concise, clear, and user-friendly briefs. Each brief offers an authoritative, scientific basis for EC education and advocacy activities and provides evidence-based responses to the following EC controversies:

Is Emergency Contraception Safe?	Yes
Is Emergency Contraception Effective at Preventing Pregnancy?	Yes
Does Emergency Contraception Promote Sexual Risk-Taking?	No
Should Teens Be Denied Equal Access to Emergency Contraception?	No
Should Emergency Contraception Be Available without Prescription?	Yes
Is Emergency Contraception Cost-Effective?	Yes
Does Emergency Contraception Cause Abortion?	No

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Funding source: The authors thank the John Merck Fund for supporting this project.

Financial disclosure: Drs. Raine and Harper receive research funding from Duramed Research, Inc., a subsidiary of Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc., manufacturer of Plan B®, and Dr. Raine has received honoraria from Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

