

## Preventol- Emergency Contraceptive pill



The main aim of emergency contraception is to put the decision of contraception in the hands of women. In a patriarchal society like India, most women are not given the right to ask their partners to exercise contraception as the onus is on the woman to prevent pregnancies. Emergency contraception/'morning after' pills, thus increases the basket of choice within the woman's reach in case the contraception routine is accidentally broken, or in situations of forced sex. The basic difference between that distinguishes the morning after pills from conventional contraceptive pills is the timing of use. Morning after pill is used after unprotected intercourse within 72 hours, whereas other conventional contraceptives such as birth control pills are taken regularly to prevent pregnancy.

**Composition:** Each film coated tablet contains Levonorgestrel B.P. 0.75mg (750mcg)

**Mechanism of Action:** Preventol works in three different ways - one: it may prevent egg from being released from the ovary; two: it may prevent the sperm from fertilizing the egg and three: it may prevent the fertilised egg from implanting to the wall of the uterus. However, if the fertilised egg has already attached itself to the wall of the womb by the time **Preventol** is consumed, the medicine does not interfere with the pregnancy.

**Dosage:** Preventol is very effective at reducing the risk of pregnancy when taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse. Studies have shown that intake of emergency contraceptive tablets reduce the risk of pregnancy up to 120 hours after unprotected intercourse, but the sooner the dosing begins, the more effective the treatment will be. The pill should be used only in emergency situations (such as unprotected sex and sex under force) and certainly not as a substitute for conventional, much safer methods of contraception like condoms, low-dose oral contraceptives etc.

**Dose:** Two tablets of Preventol (levonorgestrel 750mcg (0.75mg)), 12 hours apart or two tablets of 750mcg - i.e. 1500mcg (1.5mg) in one go with in 72 hours of the unprotected sex.

**Contraindications:** Preventol is safe except for minor side effects like nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and fatigue etc. Apart from these, there are no known side effects if the pills are administered properly.

**Preventol is priced at Rs.50/-for a strip of 2 tablets**