



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD  
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

IN REPLY REFER TO  
6710  
Ser M3/140UM00019  
April 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST

Subj: PRESCRIBING, DISPENSING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF PLAN B ONE-STEP  
EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVE

- Ref: (a) BUMED memo of 26 Mar 2010 (NAVMED POLICY 10-006)  
(b) U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) News Release: FDA approves Plan B One Step emergency contraceptive for use without a prescription for all women of child bearing potential, 20 Jun 2013  
(c) ASD (HA) memo of 14 Aug 2013, Coverage of Over-The-Counter Plan B One-Step Emergency Contraceptive at Military Treatment Facilities  
(d) BUMED memo of 13 Sep 2013, Expanded Emergency Contraception Coverage  
(e) MANMED Chapter 2, Pharmacy Operations

1. This policy memorandum supersedes reference (a).
2. This memorandum establishes guidance on procedures for prescribing, dispensing, and distributing Plan B One-Step, and equivalent levonorgestrel 1.5 mg tablet formulations, per FDA approval for dispensing without a prescription and without age limitation, as described in reference (b). Navy Medicine medical treatment facilities (MTFs) will have Plan B One-Step or a generic equivalent with FDA approval for nonprescription use without age restriction available in each pharmacy per reference (c) and (d). Equivalent formulations will be made available without a prescription or age restriction only upon approval by the FDA.
3. The Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) is working on a conversion of the memorandum to an instruction with anticipated completion date in the Fall of 2014.
4. Responsibilities. Navy Medicine MTF commanders, commanding officers, and officers-in-charge will:
  - a. Ensure that each MTF pharmacy develops and implements procedures for ordering, storage, dispensing, distributing, and accounting of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent.
  - b. Ensure every patient receiving Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent from an MTF Pharmacy will be given a patient information handout provided by the manufacturer.
  - c. Develop policies to ensure that patients are able to promptly receive Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent if their healthcare provider or pharmacist has moral or ethical beliefs that conflict with the prescribing, dispensing, or distributing of emergency contraception.

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5. Policies and Procedures:

a. Documentation. The MTF prescribing provider must record all prescription courses of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent in the patient's medical record. MTF prescribing providers will also document counseling regarding more effective birth control methods should the beneficiary's emergency contraceptive use exceed more than two fills in a 6 month period. If access to an electronic medical record is not available, then documentation will be made in the patient's paper medical record on a Standard Form (SF) 600.

b. Navy Medicine MTF Pharmacies:

(1) Navy Medicine MTF Pharmacies shall make available and dispense Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent upon request of the patient, and ensure all dispensed emergency contraceptives are documented in the patient's medication profile.

(2) Male beneficiaries requesting Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent must present their military identification card and the identification card of the eligible female beneficiary who will consume the medication.

(3) Procedures for the stock and replenishment of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent and other emergency contraceptives will be established, coordinated, and monitored by the local MTF pharmacy.

c. Navy Medicine MTF Emergency Departments (EDs):

(1) ED distribution of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent must be performed by a licensed healthcare provider in accordance with requirements for the Prescribers Medication Dispensing Program (PMDP) as described in reference (e) and per local MTF policy.

(2) ED distribution must be dispensed to the patient for whom the medication is prescribed. Male beneficiaries requesting Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent must present their military identification card and the identification card of the eligible female beneficiary who will consume the medication.

(3) Local policy governing ED distribution of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent must be consistent with local policy governing ED procedures for distributing medication after the main pharmacy is closed.

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6. Limitations. Additional dispensing of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent to a patient in excess of two fills in 6 months will be honored, but the patient will be advised and assisted in seeking family planning counseling for consideration of more effective contraception. Patients will be counseled on this requirement by the MTF prescribing provider dispensing the initial pack of Plan B One-Step or generic equivalent, and this counseling shall be documented in the patient's medical record.

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7. My point of contact for questions regarding this policy memo is CAPT Edward Norton,  
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