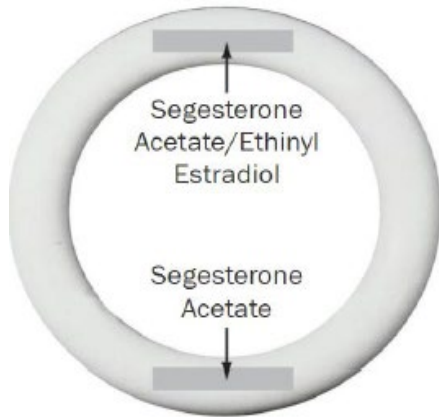




# Contraceptive Option: Annovera® Vaginal Ring

Annovera® is a combined hormonal contraceptive for women of reproductive age used to prevent pregnancy and is the first vaginal ring contraceptive that can be used to control pregnancy and fertility for an entire year.



## OVERVIEW

- Reusable, donut-shaped, non-biodegradable, flexible vaginal system.
- Placed in the vagina for three weeks followed by one week out of the vagina, at which time women may experience a period.
- Service members may experience a period for the 7 days that Annovera® is not inside the vagina. **Annovera® can be kept in place continuously to suppress periods** but may result in some intermittent spotting. With continuous use, volume of spotting can decrease.
- 97.3% effective at preventing pregnancy when used as directed.
- The same ring can be washed and then inserted for another three weeks repeatedly for a full year (13 cycles).
- Composed of a “squishy” silicone elastomer, softer and more pliable than the NuvaRing.®
- Only product with new novel progestin – segesterone acetate.
- Low levels of breakthrough bleeding.
- **Long-lasting, patient-controlled, reversible birth control that does not require a procedure or multiple visits to the doctor.**
- The same contraindications to combined hormonal contraceptives apply to Annovera®. Smoking while taking this contraceptive increases the risk of serious cardiovascular events.

## DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Service members need to remember to remove and re-insert Annovera® on the appropriate dates and will need access to space to wash, insert, and remove Annovera® as needed.
- Annovera® does not require refrigeration.
- Talk to service members about the duration of effective use, if they are using Annovera® continuously.

