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# Nonoxynol 9 Gel

**Generic name:** Nonoxynol 9 Gel [ *non-OKS-i-nole-nine* ]

**Brand names:** Options Conceptrol, Options Gynol II Contraceptive, Shur-Seal Contraceptive, [VCF Vaginal Contraceptive](#)

**Drug class:** [Spermicides](#)

[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com. Last updated on Mar 23, 2024.

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## Uses of Nonoxynol 9 Gel:

- It is used to prevent pregnancy.

## What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take Nonoxynol 9 Gel?

- If you have an [allergy](#) to [nonoxynol 9](#) or any other part of nonoxynol 9 gel.
- If you are allergic to nonoxynol 9 gel; any part of nonoxynol 9 gel; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you or your partner has HIV [infection](#).
- If you are pregnant or may be pregnant. Do not use nonoxynol 9 gel if you are pregnant.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with nonoxynol 9 gel.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, [vitamins](#)) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take nonoxynol 9 gel with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

## What are some things I need to know or do while I take Nonoxynol 9 Gel?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take nonoxynol 9 gel. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- This medicine does not stop the spread of diseases like HIV or hepatitis that are passed through blood or having sex. Do not have any kind of sex without using a latex or polyurethane condom. Do not share needles or other things like toothbrushes or razors.
- This medicine may cause harm if swallowed. If nonoxynol 9 gel is swallowed, call a doctor or poison control center right away.
- If you are pregnant or you get pregnant while taking nonoxynol 9 gel, call your doctor right away.

- Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about any risks to your baby.

## How is this medicine (Nonoxynol 9 Gel) best taken?

Use nonoxynol 9 gel as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- Do not take nonoxynol 9 gel by mouth. For vaginal use only. Keep out of your mouth, nose, and eyes (may burn).
- Do not use nonoxynol 9 gel rectally.
- Wash your hands before and after use.
- If you want to douche, wait at least 6 hours after last intercourse.
- If used the correct way before you have sex, nonoxynol 9 gel works right away and lasts for up to 1 hour. Use nonoxynol 9 gel again each time you have sex.

### What do I do if I miss a dose?

- This medicine is used on an as needed basis. Do not use more often than told by the doctor.

**i** [Detailed Nonoxynol 9 topical dosage information](#)

## What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like [rash](#); hives; [itching](#); red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without [fever](#); [wheezing](#); tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Vaginal irritation.
- Burning.
- Trouble passing urine.
- Pain when passing urine.
- Bad-smelling vaginal discharge.
- If your sex partner has irritation of the penis, trouble passing urine, or pain when passing urine.

**i** [Nonoxynol 9 topical side effects](#) (more detail)

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## What are some other side effects of Nonoxynol 9 Gel?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at <https://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

## If OVERDOSE is suspected:

If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

## How do I store and/or throw out Nonoxynol 9 Gel?

- Store at room temperature.
- Protect from heat.
- Protect from cold.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

## Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about nonoxynol 9 gel, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

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## Patient resources

- [Nonoxynol 9 Film patient information](#)
- [Nonoxynol 9 Sponge](#)
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## Other brands

[VCF Vaginal Contraceptive](#), [Encare](#), [Shur-Seal Gel](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Birth Control](#)

## Further information

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

### DRUG STATUS

**Availability**

OTC Over the counter


**Pregnancy & Lactation**

 Risk data available

**CSA Schedule\***

N/A Not a controlled drug

**Approval History**

 Drug history at FDA



## User Reviews & Ratings

4.1 / 10

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