



Gynecology Questions

What do I do if I miss a birth control pill?

If you miss one pill, take it as soon as you remember or take two the next day. You are still protected from becoming pregnant. If you miss two pills, take two pills for the next two days but now you must also use a back-up method such as condoms to prevent pregnancy for the remainder of the month. If you miss more than two pills, call your doctor. With missed pills you will often have breakthrough bleeding or spotting. Check a pregnancy test if your period is late.

Do I need to reschedule my PAP smear if I have my period?

We use the ThinPrep liquid-based pap. You can have a pap smear if you have your period as long as the flow is not very heavy.

When do I need to start getting mammograms?

Women age 40 and older should have mammograms every 1 to 2 years. Women at increased risk of breast cancer should talk with their doctor about whether to have mammograms before age 40.

For more information on mammograms, please see the [National Cancer Institute Website](#).