

Data from: Canadian Contraception Consensus Part 2. Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologist Clinical Practice Guideline: No 143, March 2004.

### **What are the Benefits of a Levonorgestrel releasing intra-uterine system ?**

- Reduction of menstrual blood loss of 74-97 %
- Reduction in dysmenorrhea (painful periods)
- Reduction in pre-cancerous changes of the endometrium (lining of the uterus)
- Increased hemoglobin levels
- Amenorrhea (no menstrual bleeding):16-35%

### **What are the risks associated with a Levonorgestrel releasing intra-uterine system ?**

- Bleeding or spotting during the first month after insertion (Women using the LNG-IUS have an average of 16 days of bleeding or spotting at 1 month after insertion)
- Expulsion of the device : 5-year cumulative risk of 5.8%
- Uterine perforation: 0.6-1.6 per 1000 insertions
- Infection: increased risk during first 4 weeks after insertion
- Contraceptive failure: 0.09 per 100 woman years**

### **What are the contraindications to an intra-uterine system ?**

- pregnancy
- current, recurrent, or recent (within past 3 months) pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) or sexually transmitted infection (STI)
- sepsis or recent sepsis
- severely distorted uterine cavity
- unexplained vaginal bleeding
- cervical or endometrial cancer
- malignant trophoblastic disease
- copper allergy (for copper IUDs)
- breast cancer (for LNG-IUS)