The Elms Medical Practice

Contraceptive Implants

01244 351000

Here at the practice, we now offer a contraceptive implant service to our patients. If you are due a replacement and haven't been contacted yet, please let us know so we can make you an appointment.

> The contraceptive implant is a popular contraception choice for many women. Largely due to the fact that they are long-acting and reversible. This means that women can simply have the implant fitted and once it's in, you don't have to think about it.

The contraceptive implant in the UK provides long acting contraception for up to 3 years. It is more than 99% effective and is one of the most effective methods of contraception available. The implant is a small (4cm), flexible, plastic rod which sits just under the skin on the inside of the arm.

This is a particularly good option for women who know that they are unlikely to remember to take the pill everyday.

How is the implant fitted?

You will need to attend the clinic for an appointment with our specialist nurse to discuss if the implant is the right contraception for you.

Fitting the implant is a minor procedure done using local anesthetic, and can be done during your consultation, if appropriate. You can book your appointment over the phone, with the reception team.

Most people can have the contraceptive implant, however, you should not have the implant if you:

- Are pregnant or think you might be pregnant.
- Have liver disease or a liver tumour.
- Have unexplained vaginal bleeding.
- Have breast cancer or any other cancer that is sensitive to progesterone, now or in the past.
- Are allergic to anything in the implant.

What are the advantages of the Implant?

The contraceptive implant is highly effective (99%) and can safely remain in place for up to 3 years.

- Some people are unable to use contraception containing estrogen and so the implant is a good alternative contraception as it is progesterone only.
- A major advantage is that it is reversible and those wanting to start a family can try as soon as the implant is removed and it is safe to reinsert as soon as the baby is born, even if breastfeeding.
- It is also said to reduce heavy and painful periods and well as not interrupting sex.

Go to this NHS link for more information https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/contraception/co ntraceptive-implant/