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Family Planning Devices and Pregnancy Diagnosis Tests

Experiment 13 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To identify common family-planning methods on teaching models and interpret an hCG test using supplied controls.

Principle

Contraceptive methods differ in their mechanisms, use requirements and suitability. A urine pregnancy test detects human chorionic gonadotropin by a method-specific immunoassay; it indicates detection above the test threshold and does not establish pregnancy location or viability.

Requirements

- Teaching condom and intrauterine-device models, contraceptive product information supplied by the instructor.
- Approved hCG test kit, synthetic positive/negative urine controls, timer and disposal materials.

Procedure

1. Classify methods

Compare barrier, intrauterine, hormonal and fertility-awareness approaches with the model table. Record who provides or inserts the method and what counselling is needed.

2. Demonstrate models

The instructor demonstrates device identity and the relevant teaching model. Intrauterine-device insertion is not practised on a person.

3. Read the test instructions

Check expiry, control requirements, specimen type, input quantity and reading time for the exact hCG kit.

4. Run controls

Apply the supplied synthetic controls as directed. Start the timer and read only within the prescribed window.

5. Interpret lines

For the assigned line-format kit, a valid control line with a test line indicates positive; a control line alone indicates negative. Absence of the control line is invalid, even if a test line appears.

6. Discuss limitations

An early or dilute specimen may be negative before sufficient hCG is detectable. A positive result cannot exclude ectopic pregnancy; worrying symptoms need clinical assessment.

Observations and Record

Method / test	Mechanism or reading	Key point
Condom	Barrier	Can reduce STI transmission when used correctly
Copper IUD	Local effect impairing fertilisation	Inserted and managed by a trained clinician
Hormonal methods	Method-dependent ovulation/cervical-mucus effects	Suitability and use differ by product
hCG control and test lines	_____	Record valid / invalid and reading time

Worked Example

The numbers below are illustrative; enter your own observations in the record.

- A teaching device with both control and test lines inside the reading window is positive. A late evaporation mark outside that window is not interpreted as a valid test line.

Result

Record the observed outcome and calculated value, with units. State whether the stated laboratory specification was met; do not copy the worked example as your result.

Precautions

- Use synthetic controls and demonstration models; protect privacy.
- Do not imply that contraceptive tablets protect against STIs or that hCG testing determines the location of a pregnancy.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. Why require a control line?

It demonstrates proper test migration/reagent function for that device.

2. Why can an early test be negative?

Urinary hCG may be below the detection threshold.

3. Which listed method can also reduce STI transmission?

Correctly used condoms.

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