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### **Antibiotic prophylaxis in intra-uterine device insertion: is there any evidence?**

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**Background & Aim:** The intrauterine device (IUD) is nowadays the most widely used reversible contraceptive method in the world, particularly in developing countries. IUDs are an extremely safe and effective contraceptive option for women. However, studies have demonstrated an increased risk for pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) in the first few days after IUD insertion. Thus, antibiotic administration before IUD insertion might reduce the risk of PID from passive introduction of bacteria at insertion. The aim of this study is to review the evidence on the effectiveness of prophylactic antibiotic administration before IUD insertion in order to decrease the risk of PID.

**Method:** A search was performed between January 2000 and January 2015, in Portuguese and English, using 'Intra-uterine devices' and 'Antibiotic prophylaxis' as MeSH terms in data sources National Guideline Clearinghouse, Guidelines Finder, Canadian Medical Association Practice Guidelines, Cochrane Library, Clinical Evidence, Pubmed and Bandolier. The Strength of Recommendation Taxonomy (SORT) scale was used to assess level of evidence and strength of recommendation.

**Results:** Fifty articles were found. Six met the inclusion criteria (5 guidelines and 1 meta-analysis). Three guidelines did not recommend the use of antibiotic prophylaxis before insertion of an intrauterine device (strength of recommendation B) like as the Cochrane meta-analysis (level of evidence 1). Two guidelines demonstrated that routine use of prophylactic antibiotics is not recommended prior to IUD insertion, although it may be used in certain high-risk situations (strength of recommendation C).

**Conclusions:** Routine antibiotic prophylaxis to prevent PID is not recommended before IUD insertion (strength of recommendation B). More studies are needed for PID high risk populations.