

What can interfere with taking Birth control pills?

Effectiveness is an important and common concern when choosing a birth control method. Birth control pills are very effective. The Pill works best when taken every day at the **same time**. That keeps the correct level of hormone in a woman's body.

- Less than 1 out of 100 women will get pregnant each year if they **always** take the pill each day as directed.
 - About 9 out of 100 women will get pregnant each year if they **don't always** take the pill each day as directed.
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Certain medicines and supplements may make the pill less effective. These include:

- the antibiotic rifampin — other [antibiotics](#) do not make the pill less effective
 - the antifungal griseofulvin — other antifungals do not make the pill less effective
 - certain HIV medicines
 - certain anti-seizure medicines
 - St. John's wort
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Please keep in mind the pill doesn't protect against [sexually transmitted infections](#). Use a latex or female condom to reduce the risk of infection.

Call Student Health Services at 215-572-2966 if you have any other questions or concerns.
