



## Levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device (Mirena) now PBS listed for idiopathic menorrhagia



The restricted PBS listing for levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device (Mirena) was extended on 1 August 2007 to include women in whom oral therapies for idiopathic menorrhagia are ineffective or contraindicated.<sup>1</sup> This device was previously restricted for contraceptive use only.

The PBAC recommended extending the listing based on cost-minimisation compared with hysterectomy. Treatment with a levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device may not be a lasting alternative to hysterectomy for menorrhagia.<sup>2</sup> However, it offers women a more conservative option that will allow them to become pregnant on removal of the device.

### References

1. Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing PBB. March 2007 PBAC Outcomes — Positive Recommendations. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/pbacrec-mar07-positive#lev> (accessed 18 May 2007).
2. Hurskainen R, Teperi J, Rissanen P, et al. Clinical outcomes and costs with the levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system or hysterectomy for treatment of menorrhagia: Randomized trial 5-year follow-up. *JAMA* 2004;291:1456-63.

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