QUESTIONS AND FACTS

1. Do condoms provide total protection against all sexually transmitted diseases? **ANSWER:** No. Condoms provide protection against many STIs such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and HIV; however, there are some STIs such as genital warts and herpes that can be passed through sexual contact even when a condom is used.

2. How often should male condoms be used to prevent STIs and pregnancy? **ANSWER:** Every single time you have penile-oral, penile-vaginal or penile-anal sex.

3. At what point during sexual intercourse should the condom be put on the penis? **ANSWER:** Once erect and before any penile contact with your partner’s genitalia. Fluids released from the penis even very early in sex (pre-cum) can cause pregnancy and transmit an STI.

4. How effective are condoms at preventing pregnancy? **ANSWER:** Condoms are rarely used perfectly, under normal conditions, condoms are 85% effective; meaning 15 women in 100 will become pregnant in one year.

5. How long can a condom last in my drawer? **ANSWER:** Generally, condoms can last years when properly stored in a cool, dark place away from sun, heat, and humidity. Always check the package for the expiration date and make sure that the condom package still has air in it before opening and using the condom. If you ever take a condom out of the package and it looks odd, throw it away and get another one. Defects are rare, but can happen.

6. Are flavored condoms for oral sex? **ANSWER:** Yes. There are two types of flavored condoms lubricated and non-lubricated. Flavored lubricated condoms often have sugars in the lubricant which can cause a yeast infection if used during vaginal sex. In a pinch, it is ok to use them, however it is not ideal. Non-lubricated condoms are dry; if used for vaginal sex, they are likely to cause uncomfortable friction for both partners. Non-lubricated condoms are more likely to break during sexual contact.

7. Do condoms come in different sizes? **ANSWER:** Yes. Condoms come in small (Iron Grip), regular (ENZ), large (Magnum), extra-large (XL-Magnum) and huge (Her Pleasure). It is important to find the size and shape that works for you. Try a couple of different kinds and see what you and your partner like. If condoms slip off during sex, you may want to try a smaller condom. If condoms break during sex you may need a larger condom or try using a little lube during sex.

RESOURCES

**WELLNESS CENTER**
(located in the Student Health Center)
374 E Grand Ave, Carbondale
618/453-3311
- Free condoms

**STUDENT HEALTH CENTER PHARMACY**
374 E Grand Ave, Carbondale
618/453-4417
- Condoms for sale at reduced cost!

**BOOKSTORE**
(Located in the Student Center)
- Condoms for sale

**LONGBRANCH COFFEEHOUSE**
100 East Jackson Street, Carbondale
618/529-4488
- Condoms for sale

**WALMART**
450 E Main St, Carbondale
618/549-0709
- Condoms for sale (24 hours)

**WALGREENS**
206 S Wall St, Carbondale
618/457-4104
- Condoms for sale (24 hours)