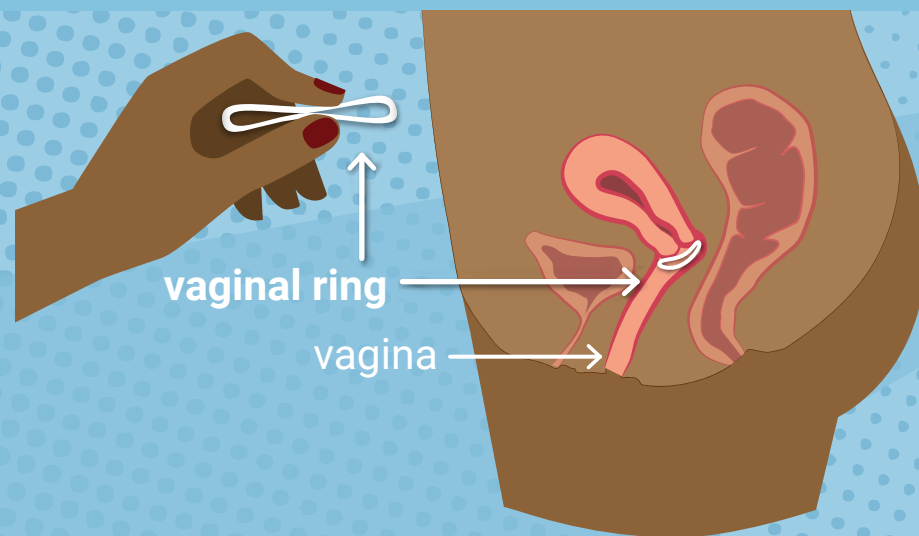


THE HIV PREVENTION RING

South Africa's medicines regulator, SAHPRA, has approved the new vaginal HIV prevention ring for women over 18.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The ring is put into the vagina every month and slowly releases dapivirine into the body to help prevent HIV infection. It works to prevent HIV in people who are HIV negative in the same way as the PrEP pill.



REMEMBER...

The ring only works to prevent HIV, it doesn't prevent other STIs or pregnancy so always use condoms and lubricant every time you have sex.

WHAT IS IT?

The Vaginal Ring is a flexible, silicon band containing the antiretroviral medicine (ARV) dapivirine. It was developed by the International Partnership for Microbicides.

WHY IS IT GOOD NEWS?

Women bear the burden of the global HIV/AIDS epidemic. The ring is a great new prevention option designed specially for women:

- ✓ It is discrete – women can use it without anyone knowing.
- ✓ There are fewer side-effects because it is absorbed slowly into the body.
- ✓ The ring is easy to use – you don't have to remember to take a pill every day.
- ✓ It works really well: studies have found it is effective at preventing HIV.