

## Emergency Contraception

**In a healthy community**, all hospitals offer information about and provide emergency contraception upon request to victims of sexual assault in emergency rooms. In a healthy community, Plan B emergency contraception is available to all individuals at any pharmacy. For individuals under the age of 18 with a legal prescription, pharmacies are required to dispense Plan B without discrimination or added delay. Individuals 18 and older can purchase Plan B without a prescription in any pharmacy.

**Getting Started:** There are laws and policies at the federal, state, and local levels that have an impact on whether emergency contraception is available to all in your community. Before moving ahead on this checklist, refer to the Plan A Grassroots Toolkit for tips on how to find out about the laws and policies in your area. This information will be critical in helping you assess the unique situation in your community.

- 1. Do hospital emergency rooms provide information about emergency contraception to rape victims?
- 2. Do hospital emergency rooms in your community offer emergency contraception to rape victims upon request?
- 3. How do hospitals that do not offer information or counseling on emergency contraception respond to requests by patients for the medication?
- 4. Do pharmacies in your community stock Plan B emergency contraception?
- 5. How much does Plan B cost with a prescription?
- 6. How much does Plan B cost without a prescription?
- 7. Do pharmacies in your community have policies that allow pharmacists to refuse to fulfill lawful requests for Plan B?
- 8. How do these pharmacies handle situations when their pharmacists refuse to fill prescriptions?
- 9. Are there 24-hour pharmacies in your community that stock Plan B?

### “I want to go further...”

- 1. Does your insurance company cover prescription Plan B?
- 2. Does your insurance company cover over-the-counter Plan B?
- 3. What are the pharmacy refusal policies of the national chains that serve your community?
- 4. What are the pharmacy refusal policies of the local chains and independent pharmacies?
- 5. Has a merger of hospitals in your community, including religiously affiliated hospitals, changed the ability of patients to access Plan B?