

# sex talk.

answers to your questions about sex and relationships

## wildfact

Condom use among students who are sexually active is at an all time high. It has increased 32% since 1998. (2009 Health & Wellness Survey, N=1,720)

Q

Two days ago, my boyfriend and I had sex... during it, the condom fell off... we looked for it, felt inside of me, and could not find it... now, two days later, I was using the bathroom and the condom fell out. I am officially terrified and freaked out. I don't want to be pregnant... if I took the morning-after pill, would it work? More than anything, I feel like I have a UTI. I still have no clue if I am pregnant, and I am afraid to call the health center because my parents check my phone records and explaining this would be really hard.

- A. A missing condom can be alarming, so your fears are certainly understandable. First things first: purchasing the morning after pill – aka Plan B, Emergency Contraception or EC – is a good idea since you want to decrease your chances of getting pregnant. EC costs \$35 from the Campus Health pharmacy and is available over the counter without a prescription. A stronger form of the common birth control pill, EC has shown effectiveness in helping prevent a pregnancy for up to 120 hours after intercourse, but the sooner you can take it, the better.

Since you mention that you feel like you have a UTI, it is worth getting checked out by a health care provider. Typically, symptoms of UTIs include painful urination, cloudy and/or strong smelling urine, frequent trips to the bathroom to urinate, painful sexual intercourse and pressure in the lower pelvis. To schedule an appointment, call 621-9202, or simply walk-in to Campus Health.

If you are worried that your parents will find out about your appointment, rest assured that Campus

Health keeps all your personal medical information private. No one at Campus Health can disclose this information without your consent, and all charges are generically billed to your Bursar's Account as "Campus Health."

To help prevent your boyfriend's condom from slipping off in the future, the two of you will want to make sure the condom fits and is being worn correctly. Remember that condoms are meant to be worn on an erect penis, so a loss of an erection – through orgasm, for instance – can result in a loose condom that eventually falls off. Too much lubrication, especially if lube is being used inside the condom to enhance sensation, or too little due to vaginal dryness can also be common culprits of slippage. Whatever the reason, make sure you address the issue through open and honest communication to help avoid another similar experience down the road.



Have a question? Send it to [sextalk@email.arizona.edu](mailto:sextalk@email.arizona.edu)

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