

# **Subdermal Contraceptive Implant (Nexplanon)**

## **Name of procedure:**

Insertion of subdermal contraceptive implant (Nexplanon)

## **The intended benefits:**

- To prevent unintended pregnancy - this is not 100% effective.
- The implant lasts for three years. The failure rate is less than 1/ 1000.

## **The possible risks:**

- The implant requires a small procedure to fit and remove and can cause bleeding or bruising after the procedure and you will have a small scar.
- Rarely the removal of the implant may be difficult and require referral to a specialist service
- There is a very small risk of infection at the insertion site
- You may develop progesterone related side effects which can include headaches, mood changes and acne. These tend to be most common in the first few months after insertion.
- Your periods may change in a way.
  - 1 in 5 women have no periods when using the implant
  - 1 in 10 women have more frequent or longer bleeding, if this occurs you should speak to a GP at the surgery as we can treat this.
  - The remainder of women have lighter irregular periods