MENSTRUAL HYGIENE



WHAT IS MENSTRUATION ?

• Girls start to menstruate between the age of 10 - 19.

A period is of 2 to 7 days that a girl or woman has her menstrual blood flow, when blood and tissue from uterus leave her body through her vagina.

SYMPTOMS OF MENSTRUATION



CHANGES DURING MENSTRUATION





Taboos

- I do not attend school.
- I can't attend religious function.
- I have to sleep separately from other members of family.
- I can't eat certain foods.
- I do not wash my body .
- I do not play sports.
- I have many restrictions placed.

The Absence Of Periods Is Normal in.....

During pregnancy

Breastfeeding





At the time of menarche (When menstruation first begins)







Risk to Health of Poor Menstrual

Hygiene

Infection



Vaginal Irritation

Unusual Discharge







HOW TO MANAGE YOUR FIRST PERIODS?

- Talk to others with girls and women such as grandmother, mother, elder sister, female friend or older woman in your Community.
- Don't be afraid. It can be scary to see the blood of your underwear but it is normal and natural.
- If you are at school, tell the matron , A female teacher or fellow student.
- Feel proud your body is developing that of a young women .

HOW TO CAPTURE THE BLOOD ?

Place a cloth , pad ,cotton or tissue on your underwear .

• Never insert the material inside your vagina .

Change cloth, pad, cotton every 2 to 6 hours or more frequently if you think that the blood flow is getting heavy.

HOW TO DISPOSE CLOTH, PAD AND COTTON ?

If you are re-using a cloth put it into a plastic bag until you can wash it with hot water, antiseptic solution and soap and dry it in the sunshine or Iron it.

• If you are using pad or want to dispose your cloth wrap it in paper to make a clean packet and put it in the bin so it can be burned later.

Do hand wash before and after use of sanitary napkins .

HOW TO KEEP YOURSELF CLEAN DURING PERIODS ?

- Everyday wash your genitals with mild soap and water.
- Keep unused cloth and pads clean for further use.
- Keep the area dry with cloth and put a fresh cloth pad, cotton on your underwear .
- Always wipe from front to back after defecation.
- **Wash vagina with water.**

HOW TO MANAGE STOMACH PAIN FORM YOUR PERIODS ?

Use hot water bag

Do exercise

Use painkillers if needed as per doctors order.



TO MANAGE MENSTRUATION HYGIENICALLY

- It is essential that women and girls have access to water and sanitation.
- They need somewhere private to change sanitary cloths or pad.
- Clean water for flushing their hands and used cloths.
- Facilities for safely disposing of used pads .
- There is also need for both men and women to have a greater awareness of menstrual hygiene.

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