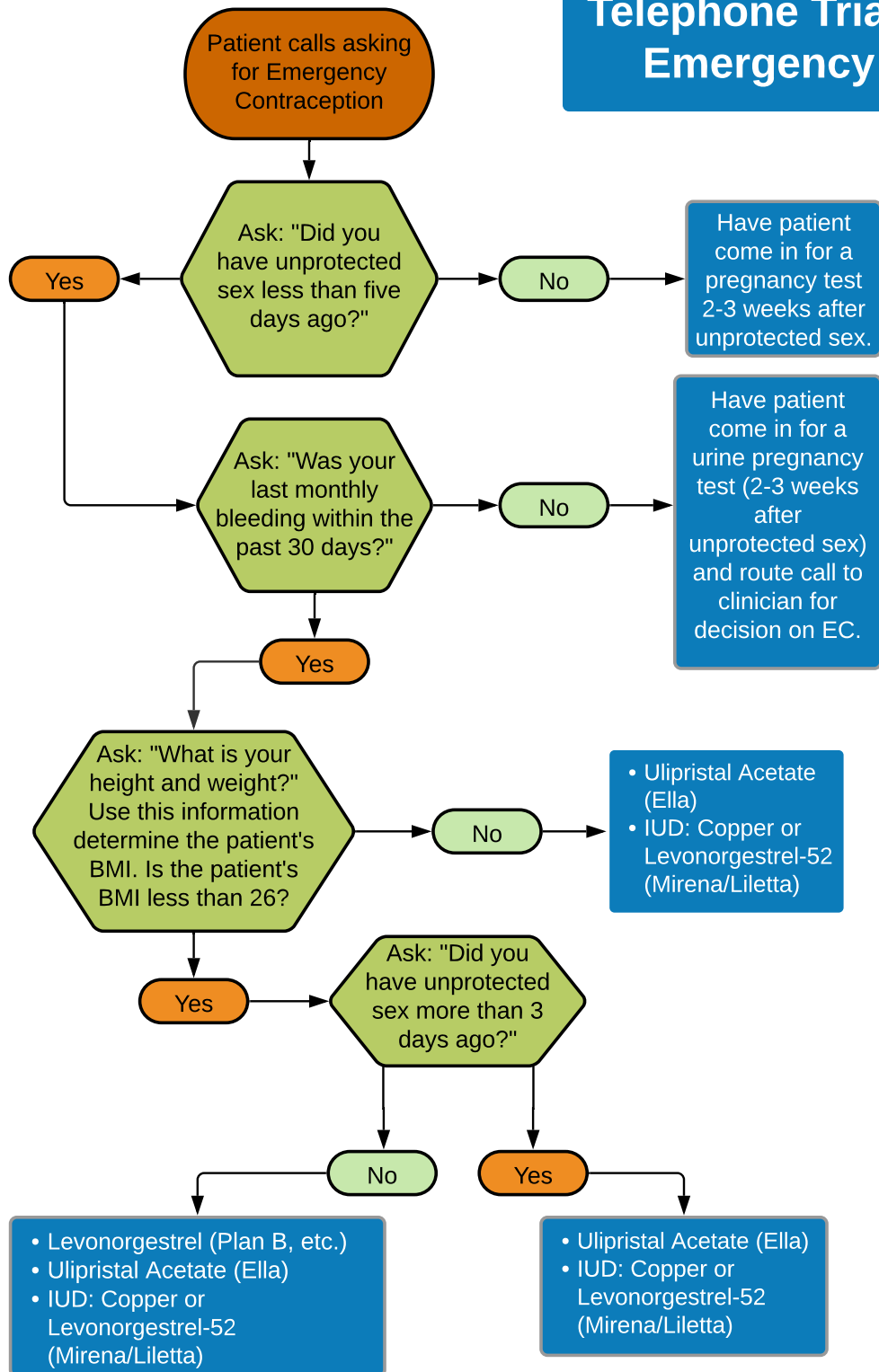


Telephone Triage Algorithm For Emergency Contraception



- Emergency Contraception (EC) is most effective when taken as soon as possible after unprotected sex.
- The effectiveness of EC decreases as time goes by.
- **Pills: Levonorgestrel (Plan B), Ulipristal Acetate (Ella)**
 - Fill the prescription immediately. If there are two tablets, take both tablets together. (Even if the box might say to take them 12 hours apart and up to 3 days - it works better to take both pills together and is effective up to 5 days.)
 - **Levonorgestrel EC (Plan B)**
 - Is available over the counter and by prescription
 - Best if taken ASAP, and within 72 hours (3 days) of having unprotected sex
 - **Ulipristal Acetate (Ella)**
 - Requires a prescription
 - Take within 120 hours (5 days) of having unprotected sex
 - Patients with BMIs higher than 35 should be counseled that ulipristal acetate may be less effective and an IUD may be more effective.
 - If a patient currently has an ongoing method of contraception, such as pills, Ella may have an interaction with them. The patient may need to wait a few days before starting oral contraception again.
- **IUD (Intrauterine Device): Copper, Levonorgestrel-52 (Mirena/Liletta)**
 - If planning to use an IUD as EC, either the Copper or Levonorgestrel-52 (Mirena/Liletta) should be placed by a clinician within 120 hours (5 days) of having unprotected sex.
 - A patient's BMI will not affect the effectiveness of the IUD.
 - In addition to being used as EC, the IUD can be continued as a method of contraception.
 - A patient can have the IUD removed during their next monthly bleeding.
- **Follow Up**
 - The patient should take a pregnancy test 2-3 weeks after unprotected sex.
 - Schedule an appointment if the patient is interested in an ongoing method of contraception.

Other Things to Note:

- The oral EC prescription should be sent to the pharmacy after the conversation with the patient, and after it has been ordered and documented in the patient's chart by a provider. Call in as soon as possible.
- If a patient calls asking for oral EC to have on hand in case of an emergency, you can send in the prescription (advance prescription). The same instructions for when/how to use should be given to the patient.
- Document this telephone encounter as is required by your health center.

