

# Common Questions About Sayana Press (DMPA-SC)



## DMPA-SC: *subcutaneous depot medroxyprogesterone acetate*

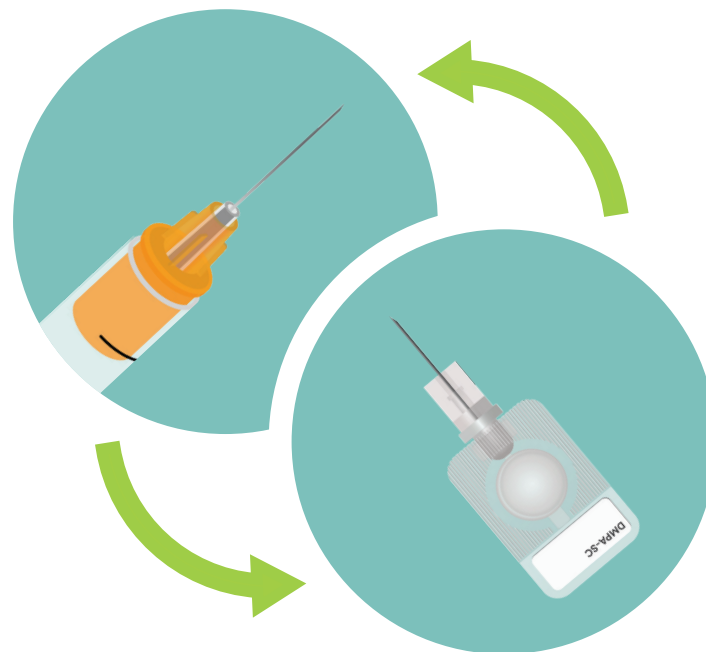
DMPA-SC is a low-dose form of depot medroxyprogesterone (DMPA), sold under the brand name Sayana Press<sup>TM</sup>. The needle comes prefilled for injection. DMPA-SC has the same effectiveness and the same side effects as intramuscular DMPA (depo).

## HOW ARE DMPA-SC AND DEPO DIFFERENT?

DMPA-SC is only available in a small injection system called Uniject. Uniject has a shorter needle than a standard depo syringe.

DMPA-SC is the same medicine, but the dose is less than the depo.

DMPA-SC must be injected into the fatty tissue under the skin—not into muscle. This is called a subcutaneous injection. Subcutaneous injections absorb more slowly into the body. This is why DMPA-SC can be a lower dose but just as effective as the depo.



## IS IT SAFE TO SWITCH BETWEEN DMPA-SC AND DEPO?

Yes. It is safe to switch between the depo and DMPA-SC, if the client is eligible for reinjection of the depo.

## HOW IS DMPA-SC GIVEN?

DMPA-SC is injected into the layer of fat under the skin in the back of the upper arm, the front of the thigh, or abdomen. The skin must be pinched, and the needle inserted straight into the skin at a downward angle by a doctor or nurse.



Needle insertion, into abdomen



Needle insertion, into thigh

✓ **SAFE**

✓ **QUICK & EASY**

✓ **ACCESSIBLE**

## WHAT ARE SOME ADVANTAGES OF DMPA-SC COMPARED TO THE DEPO?

DMPA-SC is prefilled in Uniject which makes it, quick, and safe to use. This method might help make DMPA-SC more available and easier to deliver in communities.

## HOW EFFECTIVE IS DMPA-SC?

Two studies involving 1,779 women showed that DMPA-SC has the same effectiveness as the depo.

## DOES A WOMAN'S SIZE OR WEIGHT CHANGE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DMPA-SC?

No. The dose does not need to be changed for women of different sizes or weight.

