Sanitary pads, reusable

Country of origin | Uganda

Primary function | Protection

Health problem addressed

Menstruation is one of the most common and uniquely female experiences. Yet, millions of women and girls around the world face challenges managing their monthly periods. As many as one in ten girls in Sub-Saharan Africa miss school because of their period and many women are forced to lose out on productive days of work because of lack of access to affordable and healthy feminine hygiene products.

Disease addressed

Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium as well as female life course, not a specific disease.



The menstrual kit includes 4 reusable sanitary pads designed to provide feminine hygiene protection and comfort, they are made from high-performance textiles to provide effective protection for 12+ months. The design is an all-in-one pad that buttons into a pair of underwear. After use, the product folds conveniently for easy storage before washing.

Developer's claims of products benefits

Women and girls in over 30 countries, largely in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East have used them. They are often distributed in refugee settings and rural low income settings where access to menstrual hygiene products is scarce or completely lacking.

Operating steps

Wrap the wings of the pad around the undergarment and button underneath. Make sure the soft side is up. It is now ready for use. If the pad needs to be changed, fold it and put in the bag if you cannot wash immediately. To clean, soak the pads in clean, cold water for 15 minutes. After soaking, use clean water and soap to wash your pads thoroughly. Rinse with clean water afterward. Hang to dry in direct sunlight or inside a ventilated areas. Reuse when dry.

Regulatory status and standards compliance

UNBS has recently (December 2017) passed a new standard for reusable pads. All requirements for the standard are completed and is expecting to officially receive the standard stamp in February 2018.

Use and maintenance User: Self-use and untrained individual.

Environment of use

Setting: Rural settings, urban settings, anywhere. Facility requirements: Running water.

Product specifications.

Dimensions: 280mm x 90mm x 3mm Accessories: Underwear Lifetime: 0-2 years In UN catalog: No

Commercial information

Reference price (USD): 4.65 Year of commercialization: 2009 Currently sold in: 30 countries in Africa and Eastern Mediterranean Number of units distributed: 50.000+ Other features: Reusable (assuming appropriate decontamination and/or other reprocessing between uses)

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