

Wellington

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**MEDSAFE**

NEW ZEALAND MEDICINES  
AND MEDICAL DEVICES  
SAFETY AUTHORITY

A BUSINESS UNIT OF  
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

[www.medsafe.govt.nz](http://www.medsafe.govt.nz)

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## Supply of Non-Natural Latex Condoms in New Zealand

All condoms supplied in New Zealand must comply with the requirements of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977 (The Act). Section 6(1) of the Act requires the Minister of Health to mandate standards for condoms by notice in the New Zealand Gazette. Currently two such standards have been gazetted;

- ISO 4074:2002e - Natural Latex Condoms, Requirements and Test Methods (Gazetted on 27 May 2004, No 60, page 1441)
- NZS 7106:1998 - Polyurethane Condoms (Gazetted on 28 January 1999, No 8, page 199)

Section 6 (2) of the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977 states that;

*Every person who manufactures for sale or sells any condom or other contraceptive device in contravention of subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.*

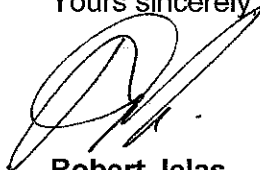
Condoms manufactured from materials other than natural latex or polyurethane may not legally be supplied in New Zealand.

Medsafe is aware that there are condoms being manufactured from materials described as being synthetic or artificial latex.

Whilst synthetic or artificial latex condoms may meet the test requirements of ISO 4074:2002e, the Standard does not include such materials as the Scope of the Standard specifies "condoms made from natural rubber latex". Therefore condoms manufactured from materials other than natural latex cannot meet the requirements of the Standard.

If you have any questions about the supply of condoms in New Zealand please contact (contact to be determined).

Yours sincerely,



**Robert Jelas**  
Senior Advisor, Medical Devices (Post Market)  
Medsafe