

# Reversible Contraception



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# Overview



## ❧ Project Description

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# Problem Statement



- ❧ Need for reversible contraception
- ❧ Contraceptive pharmaceuticals cause side-effects
- ❧ Many contraceptive methods use hormones
- ❧ Surgical procedures are invasive and usually irreversible
- ❧ Opportunity for user error

# Background



- ∞ Need for product
- ∞ Relevant physiology
- ∞ Competing designs



# Need for Product



- ☞ United Nations Millennium Development Goals <sup>1</sup>
- ☞ Drawbacks of current methods
  - ☞ Side effects, user error
  - ☞ Interference with family planning<sup>2</sup>
  - ☞ Irreversibility

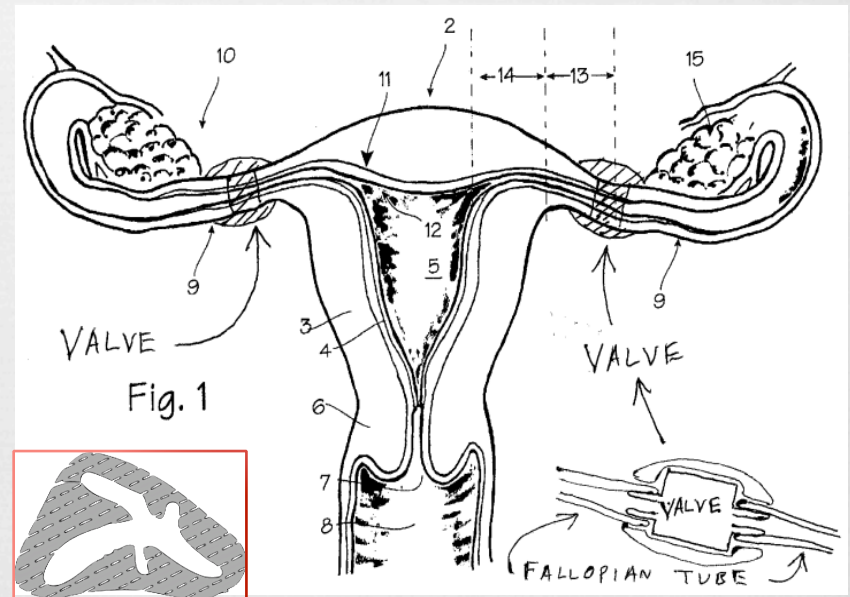


**Figure:** UN Millennium Development Goals

# Relevant Physiology



- Placement of valve
- Prevention of sperm passage
- Fallopian tube cross-section
- Small diameter

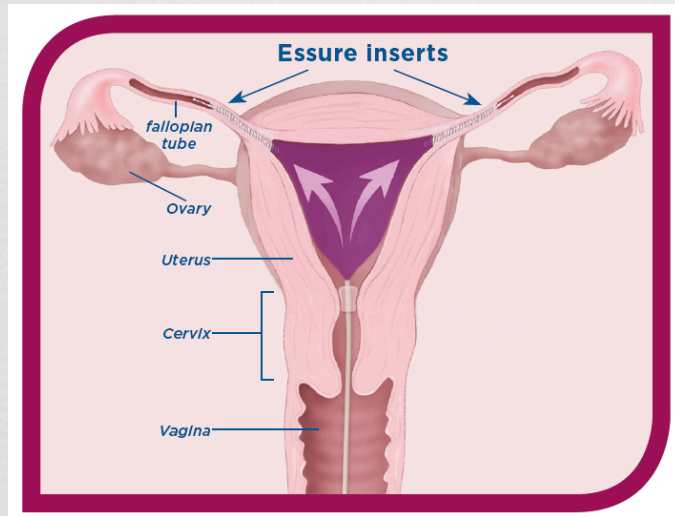


**Figure:** Valve placement and fallopian tube cross section<sup>3</sup>

# Competing Designs: Essure



**Figure:** Essure Insert<sup>4</sup>



**Figure:** Essure conformation test.

- ❧ Non-surgical
- ❧ Non-hormonal
- ❧ Permanent sterilization
- ❧ Inner-outer coil construction
- ❧ Bilateral fallopian tube occlusion



# Competing Designs: ParaGuard



- ❧ Non-surgical, Nonhormonal
- ❧ Intrauterine Contraceptive Device (IUC)
- ❧ Reversible
- ❧ T-shaped construction



**Figure:** ParaGuard placement.<sup>5</sup>



# Product Design Specifications



## ∞ Performance Requirements:

- ∞ Open and close at interval greater than year
- ∞ Provide high level of contraceptive efficacy

## ∞ Materials:

- ∞ Biocompatible, non-toxic, sterile
- ∞ Non-ferrous

## ∞ Operating Environment:

- ∞ Body Temperature (37°C)

## ∞ Life in Service:

- ∞ Duration of reproductive years

## ∞ Cost:

- ∞ \$50 per unit (2 units required per individual)

# Preliminary Design Alternatives

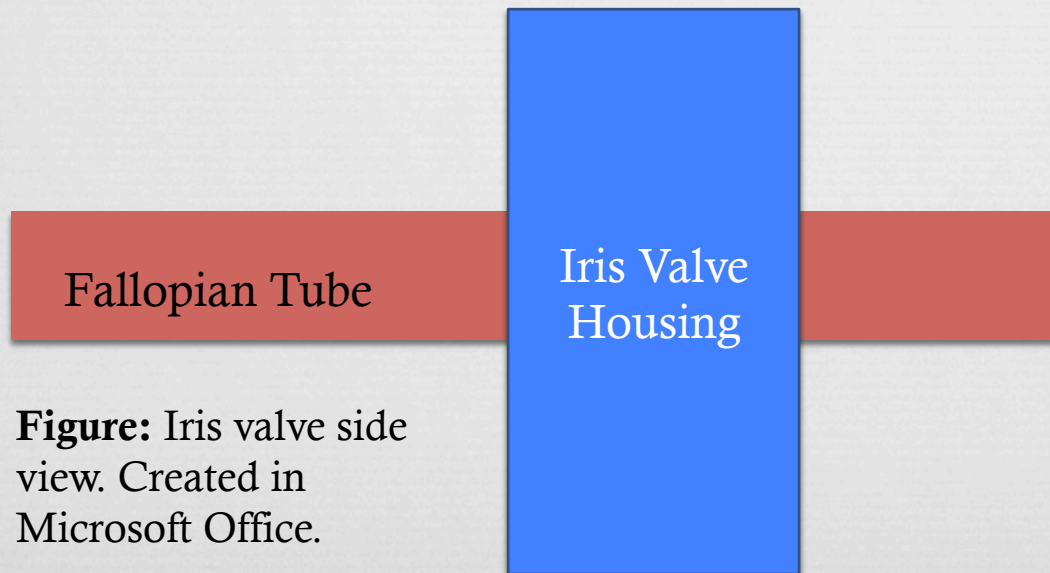


- ❧ Iris Valve
- ❧ Leaflet Valve
- ❧ Sliding Valve
- ❧ Shape Memory Polymer Valve

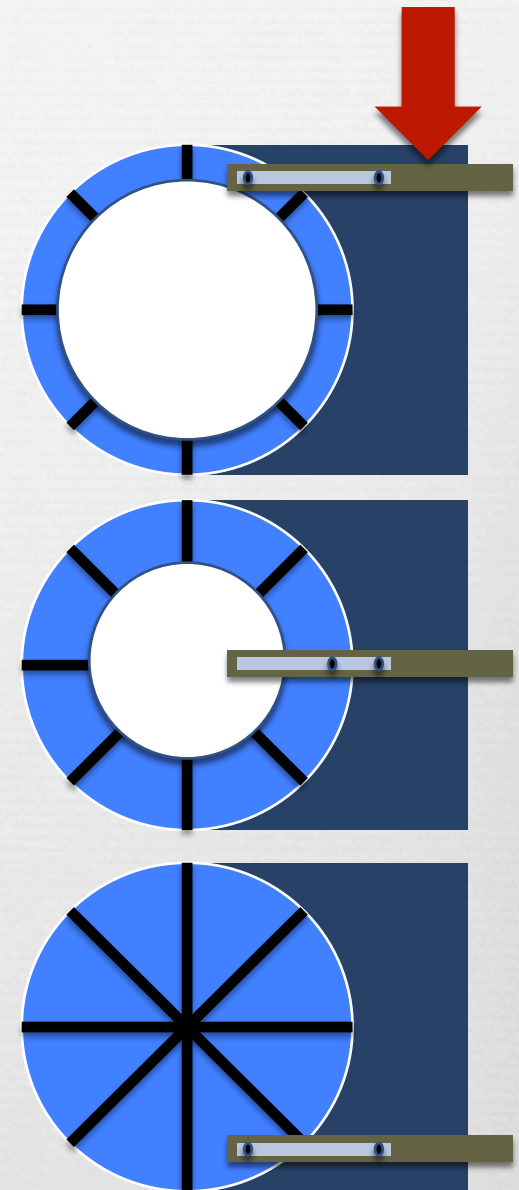
# Iris Valve



- ☞ Shutter style iris valve
- ☞ Lever arm controls opening
  - ☞ Pinned, yet allows for translation

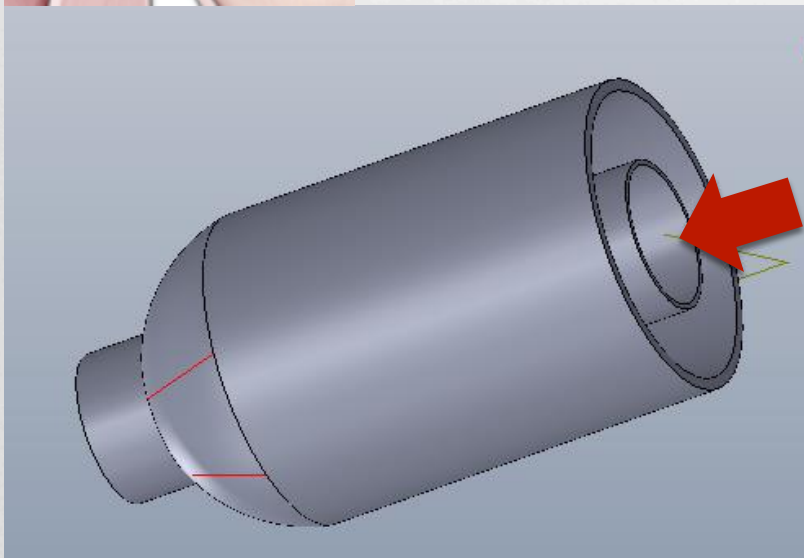
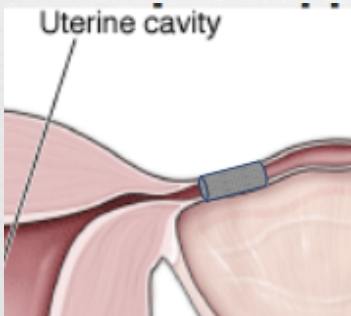


**Figure:** Iris valve side view. Created in Microsoft Office.



**Figure:** Iris valve cross section. Created in Microsoft Office.

# Leaflet Valve



- ☞ Two nested cylinders
- ☞ Sliding action induced by electromagnetic force
- ☞ Leaflets under tension
- ☞ Biocompatible polymer

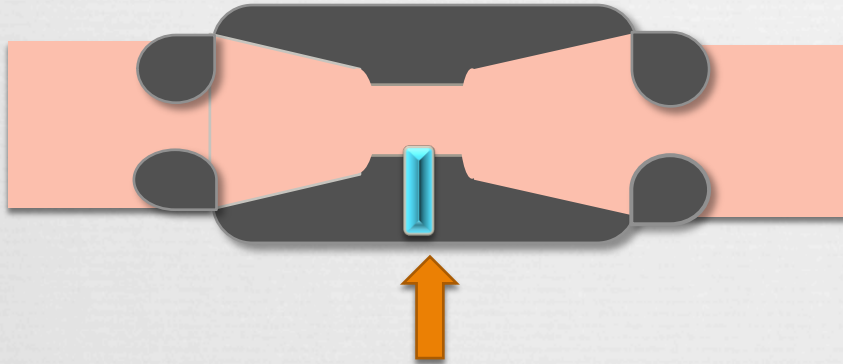
**Figure:** Leaflet valve and placement.<sup>6</sup>  
Created in Solidworks.



# Sliding Valve

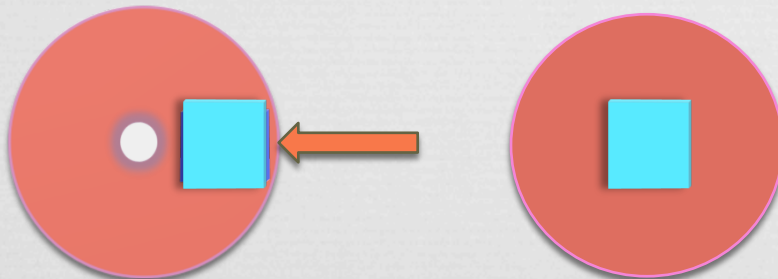


Side view



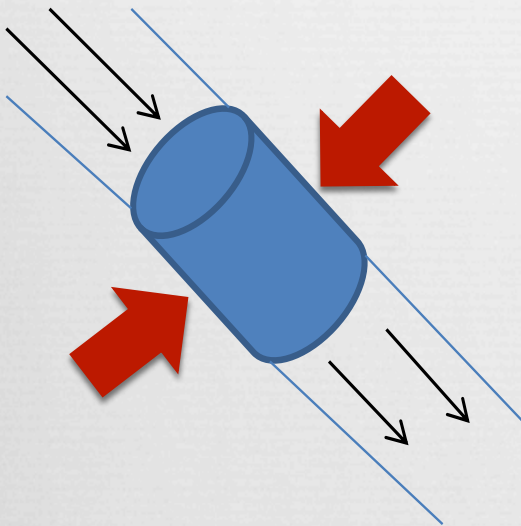
- ∞ Funnel guidance
- ∞ Sliding plate embedded in housing
- ∞ Uniaxial force applied via external controller

Transverse Cross-Section view

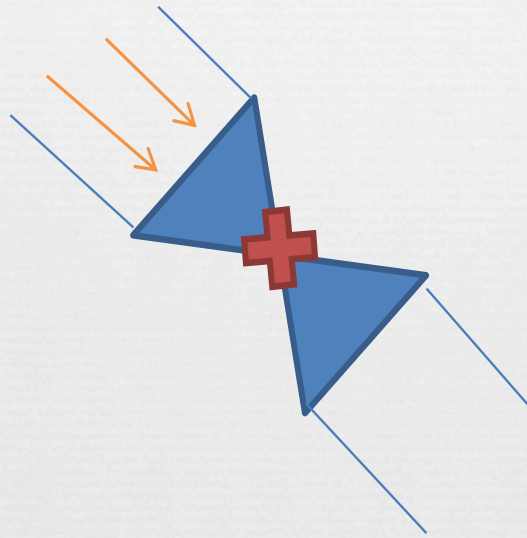


**Figure:** Created in Microsoft Office

# Shape Memory Polymer Valve



Shape One: free passage through tube



Shape Two: no passage through tube

- ∞ Shape conformation induced by magnetic field
- ∞ Feasibility and reliability issues

**Figure:** Shape memory polymer valve.  
Created in Microsoft Office

# Design Matrix



Parameters	Weight	Leaflet Valve	Sliding Valve	Iris Valve	Shape Memory Polymer Valve
Purchase Cost	10	6	10	10	6
Contraceptive Effectiveness	35	28	28	28	21
Biocompatibility/Safety	35	28	21	21	28
Reliability	10	4	8	6	6
Feasibility of Fabrication	10	4	8	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>67</b>

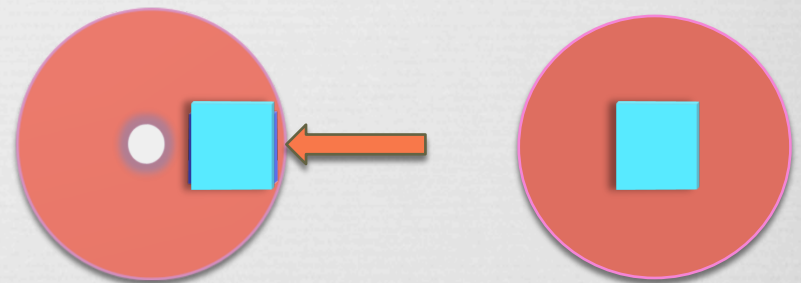
# Summary



Parameters	Weight	Sliding Valve
Purchase Cost	10	10
Contraceptive Effectiveness	35	28
Biocompatibility/ Safety	35	21
Reliability	10	8
Feasibility of Fabrication	10	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>75</b>

☞ Highest relative score

☞ Validity of design



**Figure:** Sliding valve. Created in Microsoft Office





# References



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# Acknowledgments



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# Questions?

