

Supplementary Table 1. The prevalence and incidence of postcoital bleeding in the community.

Study	Setting	Country	Age range years	Number of women	Prevalence or incidence	Type of symptom
Hakama <i>et al</i> , 1975 ³³	Community cervical screening programme	Finland	All	406 321	Prevalence 0.7% of women	'Have you in the course of the past 2 months had irregular bleedings after sexual intercourse?'
Goldacre <i>et al</i> , 1978 ²⁸	Community family planning clinic	England	16–47	1498	Prevalence 5% of women	'Do you experience blood spotting after intercourse?'
Lindner <i>et al</i> , 1988 ²⁹	Planned parenthood clinic	North America	Not given	493	Prevalence 9% of women	'Postcoital bleeding'
Viikki <i>et al</i> , 1998 ²⁷	Community cervical screening program	Finland	30–60	All women participated 1985–1990	Prevalence 0.7% of women	'Have you in the course of the past 2 months had irregular bleedings after sexual intercourse?' with negative screening.
Anorlu <i>et al</i> , 2003 ³⁴	Cervical screening in a hospital clinic	Nigeria	16–81	884	Prevalence 6% of women	'Postcoital bleeding'.
Verhoeven <i>et al</i> , 2003 ³⁵	Chlamydial screening in general practice	Belgium	15–40	787	Prevalence 1% of sexually active women	'Postcoital bleeding in the past 3 months' 'frequently'
Shapley <i>et al</i> , 2004 ³¹	Community survey	England	18–54	1861 1513	Prevalence 6% of menstruating women Annual cumulative incidence 6% of menstruating women	'Over the last 6 months have you bled during or after sexual intercourse (making love) when you were not on a period?'
Götz <i>et al</i> , 2005 ³⁶	Community survey	Holland	15–29	4304	Prevalence of 3% of sexually active women	'Previous 4 weeks (post) coital bleeding'