

PREVENTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Dr. Jouddelowitz: "It must be clearly acknowledged from the outset that there is no other means than a condom (a very thin rubber bag to be pulled onto the member for the intercourse) to prevent the attachment of sexual organ diseases."

Condoms were mostly produced from rubber, fish bladder and animal intestines. When used, the condom was placed around the man's member, after which it was greased to make it slippery. The intestine was fastened with a rubber band or a ribbon around the flesh to prevent it from coming off in the middle of use. A used condom was washed clean and dried. Cracked intestine condoms were repaired. A breakthrough in the quality of condoms was achieved when in 1912; Julius Fromm in Germany started production of new types of damp and thin condoms. There were also women's condoms, or pessaries, but those often tended to rub women's genitals sore.

In 1851, a medical card, the "yellow card" in folk tongue, was introduced by the Czar authorities as a prostitute's identity card, stating the card holder's name and comments about medical examination. The registered prostitute had to hand over all identity documents other than the medical card to the local police for safekeeping.