



West Virginia University
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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April 16, 2004

Dr. Lester Crawford
Acting Commissioner
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Crawford:

As a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, I encounter women who are seeking ECP's (Emergency Contraceptive Pills). Most of the time, they have already searched the Internet for background information on ECP's. Their only reason for the visit is for me to re-enforce the teaching and provide them with a prescription. I do admit it is a teachable moment to discuss their contraceptive methods and/or set them up with a method. However, a mandate appointment is a barrier for most women when it could easily be bought OTC with a pharmacist directions, if needed.

I am writing to strongly urge the Food and Drug Administration to make Plan B Emergency Contraception available over the counter without delay and without restrictions. The FDA should follow the strong scientific, unprecedented medical consensus and the recommendation of the two expert advisory committees which voted in support of the over the counter switch at their December meeting.

Over the counter access to Plan B would represent a tremendous advance in women's health. I urge swift FDA approval of Plan B 's OTC application without further delay.

Sincerely,

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