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NORTHWESTERN
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February 3, 2004

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD
Commissioner of Food and Drugs
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fisher Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

02-18-04P02:33 RCVD

Dear Dr. McClellan:

I am writing as a certified obstetrician/gynecologist, a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), and a member of the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP) to support over-the-counter (OTC) status for Plan B emergency contraceptive pills (ECPs). I have reviewed the scientific literature and believe the evidence clearly supports this change. I agree with the FDA advisory panel's finding that the data shows ECPs to be safe and effective for reducing unintended pregnancy and that it is appropriate for over-the-counter use. I urge you to support OTC access to ECPs.

The experts have given their report. There is no medical reason why ECPs should not be available over the counter for the women who can benefit. All women deserve the opportunity to safely and effectively protect themselves from unintended pregnancy.

Sincerely,

John J. Sciarra M.D., Ph.D.

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