

the ultimate pill... drug

THE PILL: NEW DANGER ALERT

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Is the Pill the miracle of our age—or is it killing women?



A TOP American medical watchdog has launched an amazing new attack on THE PILL.

Dr. Sidney Wolfe, a top official in the Washington-based Health Research Group — a Ralph Nader consumer organization, — said:

"It may be the leading cause of death — other than suicide and car accidents — among women between 20 and 40," Dr. Wolfe warns.

"The main dangers from the Pill are cardiovascular complications, such as stroke, high blood pressure, heart attack and blood clots.

"And, secondly, there is cancer.

"There's already evidence suggesting a link between the Pill and cancer. And if this is the case, it could be the most serious consequence of the Pill."

In Dr. Wolfe's opinion, many women now taking the Pill would not be if they were fully informed about the dangers and the alternatives.

Much of the evidence about these dangers came to light in a 12-year study by the Kaiser-Permanente Medical Center in Walnut Creek, California, headed by Dr. Savitry Ramcharan.

"We confirmed a link between the Pill and certain cardiovascular disorders."

"For example, we confirmed the increase of heart attack among Pill users who have no other tendency toward heart disease.

Normal

"And we have found that Pill users who smoke are in much greater danger than those who don't."

She also noted that obese women are in greater danger than normal women when taking the Pill.

But the evidence isn't all in, and Ramcharan says her research hasn't been able to prove that the Pill can cause cancer.

"It would seem to aggravate certain forms of cancer in people who already have it," she said. "But it doesn't seem to be the actual cause."

But despite all these warnings of danger, Dr. Wolfe insists that all is not

gloomy. He noted that the number of women now taking the Pill has dramatic-

ly declined in the past few years.

And he foresees an even bigger decline in the future.

Wolfe said he is not against completely banning the Pill and he admitted there are some women who

might have to continue using it.

"A small number of women who have tried all the other methods and for one reason or another can't use them may find the Pill appropriate," he said.

"But that is a much, much smaller group than is using it now."

Wolfe strongly urged that more research be done on the Pill.

"There are so many things that are clearly associated with it now, such as heart attacks, strokes, gall bladder disease and other effects," he noted.

"And the older a woman is the greater the risk.

"I'm almost 42 years old now," he joked. "And I don't use the Pill."

And, turning serious, added, "And I would not recommend it to anyone either."



DANGER... Dr. Sidney Wolfe calls the Pill a health threat.

It may be the leading cause of death—other than suicide and car accidents.

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Testify

PAGE A2 / TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2000 *

The Washington Times

'This evil creation'

"This week the birth control pill turned 40, with supporters celebrating its cosmetic advantages and the 'freedom' it has given women. . . . They should have been draping themselves in black and painting poison labels on the Pill's containers in mourning for the terrible damage done to individual women and to society by this evil creation. . . .

"The dangers are nearly too numerous to list. Simply read the back of the insert where you can find the catalogue of possible side effects, including death. . . .

"But that's just the beginning. Four new studies have definitively linked the Pill to increased chances of breast cancer. . . . And we are beginning to see evidence that prolonged use of the Pill might affect the uterine wall, making future pregnancies difficult or problematic.

"And all of that doesn't address the most serious issue of all . . . the damage that the Pill, as the flag bearer of the contraceptive

mentality, has done to our culture and our families. We are celebrating 40 years of promiscuity, increased abortion, increased child abuse, increased divorce. Our television programs have become unwatchable because of their unrelenting sexual content. Our young girls are trained to be sexual toys."

—The Rev. Richard Welch, president of Human Life International, in a Thursday press release