

FDA Commissioner David Kessler  
Dockets Branch  
FDA  
Room 1-23  
12420 Parklawn Drive  
Rockville, MD 20857

7 4 2 4 '00 JUN 19 10:20

RE: Docket 96P0215

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

I agree with the Population Research Institute, Norplant has damaged so many women in so many countries that it must be withdrawn from the market before it can damage any more. Please consider the Norplant petition with the greatest care. Wyeth Ayerst claims Norplant was tested on 55,000 women around the world, yet an estimated 50,000 are suing the company over the pain their product has caused. We may never know how many thousands of women around the world have had to suffer this drug delivery system's effects in silence because they lacked the legal rights and media outlets that American women have. We urge the FDA to prevent more women around the world from needless victimization and take Norplant off the market.

I am one of those victims. I had headaches, depression, and menstrual cycle for 4 years straight, and on top of all that I was diagnosed with thrombophelbitis at the age of 24, and diagnosed again in 99 with a second blood clot. I have had every work-up on me that the doctor's could do and the result as always is the Norplant. I was 20 years old and yes some side effects are there, but at 20 who knew what thrombophelbitis is. I do know now and I regret ever having it inserted into my arm. I now have a condition that will never go away. I am on medication for the rest of my life and blood tests done on a regular basis. I have three children and thank God I had them early in life because I was told to never have any more kids because of the risk involved. Now it not only gave me all these symptoms but also took my bearing of children away from me. Please remove the Norplant from the market before it kills someone because I was almost a statistic if it was not for the doctor's quick thinking.

Sincerely,

Karen Cochran  
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