



January 27, 2004

Mark McClellan, M.D.
Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. McClellan:

This is to strongly encourage you to reject efforts to grant emergency contraception (EC) over-the-counter (OTC) status.

If there are no requirements for young women to see medical providers, why should they present for regular Pap smears and sexually transmitted disease (STD) screening? Also, how will they receive appropriate counselling concerning means for preventing, as well as treating STDs.

Would not OTC EC encourage even more young women to become sexually active? How would that help their self-esteem, as well as their physical health?

It seems that OTC EC would likely become a primary means of birth control for many. How many courses of EC can be taken in the same cycle? Does anyone know this? Could any harm obtain? Who will be liable if untoward effects are noted for multiple dosing in a short amount of time?

In short, I'm concerned that over-the-counter status of EC may well be an extremely harmful public health policy. Please reject efforts to grant over-the-counter status to EC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CORNERSTONE CLINIC, LTD.

L. Carl Jurgens, M.D.

LCJ:cke

0 1 P 0 0 7 5

cc: U.S. Representative Don Manzullo
U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra

C 761