

Maternal-Fetal Medicine, P.C.
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April 21, 2004

Dr. Mark McClellan
Commissioner of the FDS
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. McClellan:

Thanks for extending the Public Comment period regarding emergency contraception OTC. In brief, I believe the availability of this type of medication without physicians counseling the patient would cause much more harm than good. It would encourage more promiscuous behavior particularly among young women because they will feel they have a "way out". I believe this will in turn lead to more pelvic inflammatory disease, more tubal pregnancies, and abortions, even though proponents claim it will lead to fewer abortions. As young women do not prescribe thyroid medication, heart medications, etc., for themselves, I think it is foolish to place contraceptive medications at their disposal without physicians' oversight.

Thanks for taking time to consider this.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Wechter, M.D.

DJW/lb

cc: Dr. John Gibbons Jr., President
Ralph Hale, ACOG Exec. V.P

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