

PHYSICIANS TO WOMEN, INC.

GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS
21 HIGHLAND AVE., S.E., SUITE 200
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24013
TELEPHONE (540) 982-8881

02-19-04A10:45 RCVD

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JULIEN H. MEYER, JR., M.D.
ROBERT L. VERMILLION, M.D.
J. DENNIS HANCOCK, M.D.
DONNA L. MUSGRAVE, M.D.
BARBARA C. MOORE, M.D.
RANDALL K. FALLS, M.D.
KURT R. STOCKSTILL, M.D.

LYNN M. KEENE, M.D.
DIANNA L. CURTIS, M.D.
ERIC D. SWISHER, M.D.
PATRICIA ALTIMORE, R.N.C., WHNP
JULIEN H. MEYER, M.D., RET.
BETH A. COLLINS, M.D., RET.

February 11, 2004

Mark B. McClellan, MD, PhD
Commissioner of Food and Drugs
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Land
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner McClellan:

As a practicing OB-GYN, Past-President of the Virginia OB-GYN Society, and Past-Chair of the Virginia Section of ACOG, I strongly support the overwhelming evidence-based and public health imperative for over-the-counter access to emergency contraceptive pills.

As you know, over one-half of all pregnancies in this country are unintended, leaving many women with difficult decisions. Anything that could reduce this number, as I believe over-the-counter emergency contraceptive pills would, would have significant health and economic benefits for the women in this country.

I strongly urge approval by the FDA for over-the-counter emergency contraceptive pills. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Vermillion, MD, FACOG

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