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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

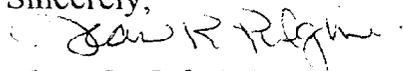
Subject: Docket No. 00N-1256

In light of the FDA's reevaluation of Over-the-Counter Drug Products [Docket No. 00N-1256], I want to address the consideration of making the birth control pill available over-the-counter (OTC). This possibility concerns me because of the nature of the pill and the risks involved.

There are more than 30 formulations of the pill today, and each woman's health history and current medical situation is different and complex. So, there are many risk factors to consider when prescribing the pill. Many women may not be aware of all the issues they need to consider when self-prescribing. Also, minors would have ready access to the pill if it were available OTC, which would potentially be even more hazardous to their health. Moreover, studies demonstrate an increased risk of cervical and breast cancer—particularly for women under age 20—and blood clots.

As a consumer, I urge the FDA not to change the status of the pill from by-prescription-only to OTC. Women's health must come before cost and convenience.

Sincerely,



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