

New Study Shows Double Cervical Cancer Risk for Oral Contraceptive Users

By Matthew Cullinan Hoffman

November 14, 2007 (LifeSiteNews.com) - A new study shows a strong correlation between the use of "the pill" and an increased cervical cancer risk.

The study, which was conducted by researchers at Oxford University and appears in the current edition of *The Lancet*, reviewed twenty-four studies examining the cases of more than 50,000 women. It concluded that women using oral contraceptives double their risk of cervical cancer, and that the increased risk lasts for ten years after cessation of use. The study also found that the longer the pill is used, the greater the risk.

The results of the study match others that have found an increased risk of both cervical cancer and breast cancer in women who use oral contraceptives, including several that have appeared in *The Lancet*. A European study earlier this year also found an increased risk for heart disease, even after women stop taking the medication.

However, the authors of the study were quick to emphasize that the main cause of cervical cancer is the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), a sexually-transmitted pathogen common among promiscuous people in western countries. They also claimed that the increased risk of cervical and breast cancer are more than offset by reductions in ovarian and endometrial cancers in women who use the drug.

Previous LifeSiteNews.com. coverage:

CONTRACEPTIVE LINK TO CERVICAL CANCER NOW IN THE LANCET
<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2003/may/03050104.html>

CANCER-LINKED, CONDOM RESISTANT STD INFECTS ONE IN FIVE US WOMEN
<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2002/nov/02111503.html>

BIRTH CONTROL PILL LINKED TO 400% INCREASED RISK OF CERVICAL CANCER
<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2002/mar/02032604.html>

THE PILL IS DEADLY TO BABIES AND WOMEN
<http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/1999/jan/99011203.html> ;

CANCER-LINKED, CONDOM RESISTANT STD INFECTS ONE IN FIVE U.S. WOMEN

HPV is main cause of cervical cancer which is second most common cause of cancer death in women

NEW YORK, November 15, 2002 (LifeSiteNews.com) - The strain of the sexually transmitted human papillomavirus (HPV-16) that is believed responsible for at least half of all cervical cancer infects nearly one in five U.S. women between the ages of 12 and 59. The November 15 issue of the Journal of Infectious Diseases reports that the virus is also prevalent in men where nearly one in 10 are infected.

Although media coverage on the HPV study did not mention it, condoms are useless in preventing HPV. Even condom-promoting Health Canada is forced to admit "barrier contraceptives, which have been successful in reducing transmission of many sexually transmitted diseases, do not appear to be effective in preventing HPV infection." Poignantly, Health Canada's information on HPV indicates that HPV is the principal cause of cervical cancer which is in turn the second most common cause of cancer death in women worldwide."

See the Reuters coverage of the HPV study:

<http://www.reutershealth.com/archive/2002/11/12/eline/links/...>

See the Journal of Infectious Diseases abstract on the HPV study:

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/JID/journal/issues/v186n10/...>

See Health Canada on HPV:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/main/lcdc/web/publicat/cjhs/cjhs4.htm...>

CONTRACEPTIVE PILL LINKED TO CERVICAL CANCER

Oxford University study finds substantial increased risk

<http://www.livesitenews.com/ldn/2003/apr/03040405.html>

LONDON, April 4, 2003 (LifeSiteNews.com) - A new highly credible British study links cervical cancer to long-term use of the contraceptive pill. Researchers from Cancer Research UK's epidemiology unit in Oxford reviewed 28 studies covering 12,500 women. They found the longer a woman took the pill, the greater her risk of developing cervical cancer -- with a 10% increased risk of if they took the pill for 5 years or less, 60% for 5 to 9 years' use, and 100% greater risk (i.e. double the risk of a non-pill-using woman) if they had taken it for at least 10 years.

"This study shows that use of hormonal contraceptives for long periods of time may increase the risk of cervical cancer," said Dr. Amy Berrington in Oxford. "There is some evidence to suggest that the risk may drop after women stop using the pill but further research is needed to confirm this." A co-author, Dr. Lesley Walker, added, "Previous studies have shown that the pill may increase the risk of breast cancer and lower the risk of ovarian cancer. Now the new data suggests that it could raise the risk of cervical cancer.

Dr. Gavin Jarvis, with Oxford's Department of Pharmacology, wrote into the BBC website: "The 'Pill' is a cocktail of steroids which causes drug-induced infertility, but will potentially influence the behaviour of every cell in a woman's body. ... Unlike other drugs, which are typically used to treat disease, the Pill is used to cause disease, i.e., infertility, in normal, healthy women. ... I would not be surprised to discover that such powerful and indiscriminate drugs used for very long periods of time, with the explicit objective of causing complete infertility in otherwise healthy women, may have longer term effects such as an increased risk of cancer or a reduction in subsequent fertility."

For BBC coverage and to submit an online comment to the BBC:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/2913465.stm>

Birth Control Pill May Cause Prostate Cancer and Bladder Disease in Mothers' Children

COLUMBIA, MO, May 4, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) – Scientists have determined that boys exposed to estrogen hormones in the abortifacient birth control pill while in utero are at a greater risk of developing prostate cancer and other urinary tract problems later in life.

Estrogen-like hormones deform the prostates in developing embryos, which can be a precursor to developing prostate cancer or bladder problems, according to research conducted by Frederick vom Saal of the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. “These chemicals [mimic] extremely potent synthetic sex hormones, strong enough to completely control an adult women’s reproductive system,” vom Saal told New Scientist.com. “The developing fetus is extremely sensitive to chemical disturbance...so exposing a male baby to them is a very bad idea.”

Vom Saal and his team exposed mice to ethinylestradiol, the hormone found in the birth-control pill. He found that the prostate glands had an increase in the number and size of prostate ducts and a narrowing of the bladder neck. They compared the effect of the hormone to diethylstilbestrol (DES) – a known (banned) cancer-causing agent.

As many as two million women become pregnant each year while taking the abortifacient birth-control pill, many of whom continue to take the drug for several months before realizing they are pregnant.

Contamination of urban water supplies with hormones from human waste – from the urine of women taking the pill – is another significant estrogen source. Scientists who mimicked the water quality in urban centres in rural lakes have found profound reproductive effects in aquatic life, such as male animals developing eggs in their testes, and sterilization.

In related research, it was found that fetal exposure to a synthetic estrogen analog – bisphenol A, an environmental pollutant found in polycarbonate plastics and food can liners, had similar deforming effects on the prostate.

See New Scientist coverage:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn7333>