

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

1. Women using Depo at least triple their chances of contracting chlamydia and gonorrhoea.⁸

2. They have an increased risk of getting Herpes with a decreased immune response.⁹

3. The presence of progesterone thins the vaginal wall, making it far more vulnerable to infections by STD's or HIV.¹⁰

4. Some studies indicate that Depo-Provera may even be an independent risk factor in contracting HIV and other STDs.⁸

The help that women deserve

Women deserve to be fully informed with the facts. Only then will they be able to have full consent. Concealing or usurping this information can seriously jeopardize a woman's autonomy.

If you need to use a safe and natural way of planning your family (provided you have a just reason for doing so), then you might want to investigate a method of natural family planning such as the Billings Ovulation Method, or the Creighton Method (also known as Napro Technology). These methods help couples to understand their fertility by teaching them to recognise when ovulation is occurring. They can be used responsibly to either achieve or avoid a pregnancy.

References:

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Family Life International (Australia)

Web: www.fli.org.au / Email: mail@fli.org.au

PO Box 205 Broadway NSW 2007

Ph: (02) 9519 9111 / Fax: (02) 9519 9622

What you should know about

Depo Provera



What is Depo Provera?

Depo Provera is an hormonal contraceptive. It is an injection of DMPA (synthetic form of progesterone) that is given every three months.

How it works

It works in three ways:

1. It may suppress ovulation (the release of an egg) in some cases (Depo-Provera users experience breakthrough ovulation about half of the time).¹

2. It changes the constitution of the cervical mucus, in an attempt to prevent sperm from reaching the ovum.

3. It alters the lining of the womb (endometrium), rendering it hostile to implantation of the newly conceived human embryo, causing the embryo to die. This is a chemical abortion.

After 1 year of using Depo-Provera most women are completely amenorrheic (complete lack of periods). Many women report a prolonged period of infertility even after they stop using Depo Provera.

Women are often told what the drugs will do but not how they will do it.



Side Effects

Weight gain, Acne ²
Male pattern hair growth or hair loss ²
Decreased libido, inability to climax, painful sexual intercourse ²
Rectal bleeding ²
Skin discoloration, yellowing ²
Breast pain, secretions, lumps ^{2,3}
Breast cancer ²
Irregular bleeding, amenorrhoea (lack of menstrual period), cramps ²
Nausea, diarrhoea or constipation ²
Fatigue, fainting ^{2,3}
Depression, mood swings ^{2,3}
Migraines, Insomnia ^{2,3}
Cervical cancer, vaginitis/vaginal cysts ²
Body aches ²
Bloating, oedema (fluid retention) ²
Hives, fever, sweating, swelling ^{2,3}
Convulsions (seizures), tremors ^{2,3}
Reproductive and urinary infections ²
Accidental pregnancy, sensation of pregnancy, sterility ²
Paralysis, facial palsy ²
Osteoporosis ²
Varicose veins, deep vein thrombosis ²

One look at the problems women have encountered while on Depo-Provera should establish that this drug is not safe, and never will be.

Research

Using Depo-Provera is harmful to you as a woman. Despite findings that link Depo-Provera to a 9-fold increase in cervical cancer,⁴ the drug was approved!

The problem was, the World Health Organisation (WHO), along with International Planned Parenthood (IPPF) and its affiliated Family Planning Associations, had been distributing the drug in third world countries for decades before it was approved in America. How could they declare the drug unsafe for American women but good enough for Third World women?

Because Depo-Provera is not self-administered there may be serious abuse issues involved:

*"In this country and in other countries, women have been pressured into taking Depo Provera without knowing what it was."*⁵

Distribution of this drug can be subtly employed as a form of population control "to keep the 'underclass'" from reproducing themselves.⁶ Targeted social groups include poor, politically powerless, black women, teens and the intellectually disabled.

If the woman is pregnant at the time of injection the child may have webbing and extra digits on the hands and feet, genital tract abnormalities and chromosomal anomalies.² Detectable amounts of Depo-Provera have been found in breast milk.²

"Because of the question marks over its safety, the drug should be banned. It was taken off the market in the U.S as a contraceptive for dogs; how can they keep giving it to women?"⁷