

December 15, 2008

Update from OCs OTC Working Group

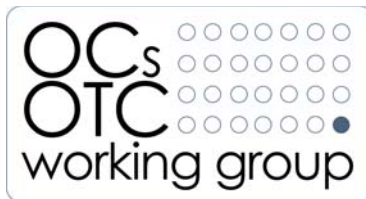
Dear Working Group Members,

Some of you may have seen the news last week about the pilot project in London, where oral contraceptives will be provided behind-the-counter after women are screened by a pharmacist. It appears that there will be some evaluation of this project, and we'll try to get more information about that as it moves forward. Links to an article from the BBC and to several other articles on the pilot project follow. Perhaps one of the more interesting lines is in the TimesOnline piece, which says, speaking of the pharmacies selected for the pilot, "They will also be able to provide chlamydia testing and possibly other types of long-acting contraception such as interuterine [sic] devices."

We also wanted to share with you the good news that the Hewlett Foundation has awarded the working group a 2-year planning grant, which will allow us to move forward with some of our planned activities. The steering committee will be meeting in January, and we'll let you know as soon as the next working group meeting is scheduled (likely in the spring of 2009).

With best wishes for the holiday season,  
Dan

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BBC (12/10/08) Pill to be given out by chemists  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7773894.stm>

Daily Mail (10/12/08) Teenage girls will be allowed to buy the Pill without a GP check-up  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1093268/Teenage-girls-allowed-buy-Pill-GP-check-up.html>

Google/Press Association (10/12/08) Pharmacy Pill plan to go ahead  
<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5juTmJw-uNWyNZhXF4G9gvNCMFx2g>

Independent (10/12/08) Women to be offered the Pill without prescription  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-wellbeing/health-news/women-to-be-offered-the-pill-without-prescription-1059588.html>

Marie Claire (10/12/08) Pill without prescription  
<http://www.marieclaire.co.uk/news/health/294083/pill-without-prescription.html>

Metro (10/12/08) Pharmacy Pill plan to go ahead  
[http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?Pharmacy Pill plan to go ahead&in article id=439704&in page id=34&in a source=](http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?Pharmacy+Pill+plan+to+go+ahead&in+article+id=439704&in+page+id=34&in+a+source=)

Mirror (10/12/08) Girls to get contraceptive pill without seeing a GP  
[http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/tm+headline=girls-to-get-contraceptive-pill-without-seeing-a-gp%26method=full%26objectid=20959707%26siteid=115875-name\\_page.html](http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/top-stories/tm+headline=girls-to-get-contraceptive-pill-without-seeing-a-gp%26method=full%26objectid=20959707%26siteid=115875-name_page.html)

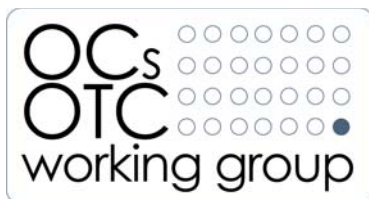
Scotsman (10/12/08) Trial plan to give out Pill without GP permission goes ahead  
<<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/health/Trial--plan-to-give.4777349.jp>>

Telegraph (10/12/08) Pill without prescription for teens  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/3691283/Contraceptive-Pill-to-be-available-without-doctors-prescription.html>

Telegraph (10/12/08) The Pill: A history of oral contraceptives  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/3697910/The-Pill-A-history-of-oral-contraceptives.html>

Times (10/12/08) Trial of Pill with no prescription in two London pilot schemes  
[http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/health/article5315275.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article5315275.ece)

Sky News (10/12/08) Women to get the Pill without GPs  
[http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/UK-News/The-Pill-Women-To-Get-Contraceptive-Pills-Without-GP-Prescriptions-Under-Pilot-Schemes/Article/200812215176073?lid=ARTICLE\\_15176073+ThePill:WomenToGetContraceptivePillsWithoutGPPrescriptionsUnderPilotSchemes&lpos=searchresults](http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/UK-News/The-Pill-Women-To-Get-Contraceptive-Pills-Without-GP-Prescriptions-Under-Pilot-Schemes/Article/200812215176073?lid=ARTICLE_15176073+ThePill:WomenToGetContraceptivePillsWithoutGPPrescriptionsUnderPilotSchemes&lpos=searchresults)



Metro (9/12/08) Chemists to offer Pill free over the counter

[http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?Chemists to offer Pill free over the counter&in article id=439031&in page id=34&in a source](http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?Chemists+to+offer+Pill+free+over+the+counter&in+article+id=439031&in+page+id=34&in+a+source)