

December 29, 2016

Dear OCs OTC Working Group Member,

We are thrilled to announce that Ibis Reproductive Health, in partnership with the OCs OTC Working Group, will work with HRA Pharma to conduct the research needed and submit an application to the United States Food and Drug Administration to make a progestin-only birth control pill available over the counter. We could not have reached this point without the leadership and guidance of the OCs OTC Working Group Steering Committee and membership. We're so grateful for your partnership and support in this work.

This is an exciting step forward in our work to increase access to reproductive health care and improve women's ability to access safe and effective contraceptive methods. We have worked together for more than a decade as a broad coalition of health care providers, advocates, and researchers to build the evidence and make the case for the benefits of moving a birth control pill over the counter.

Too many people in the US face barriers to accessing the contraceptive methods they want; a safe and effective hormonal birth control pill available over the counter would improve access and help people overcome some of those barriers. We look forward to conducting the research and advocacy needed to increase access with a future OTC OC. We stand firm in our commitment to an OTC OC that is affordable, covered by insurance, and available without an age restriction.

We hope that you will continue to amplify your support as OCs OTC gets more attention. We are expecting a piece on this announcement to be published tomorrow by Vox and we will send out a link for you to share with your networks as soon as possible. **Until then, please keep this information confidential.**

Thanks and Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kelly Blanchard  
President  
Ibis Reproductive Health

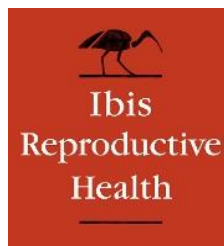


Kate Grindlay  
Project Director/Associate  
Ibis Reproductive Health

## About us

The Oral Contraceptives (OCs) Over-the-Counter (OTC) Working Group is a coalition of reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations, nonprofit research and advocacy groups, university-based researchers, and prominent clinicians who share a commitment to providing all women of reproductive age easier access to safe, effective, acceptable, and affordable contraceptives. The working group was established in 2004 to explore the potential of over-the-counter access to oral contraceptives to reduce disparities in reproductive health care access and outcomes, and to increase opportunities for women to access a safe, effective method of contraception, free of unnecessary control, as part of a healthy sexual and reproductive life.

The working group is coordinated by Ibis Reproductive Health.



[www.ibisreproductivehealth.org](http://www.ibisreproductivehealth.org)

## Contact us

**For questions or inquiries, please contact us at:**

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