



December 30, 2016

**Dear OCs OTC Working Group Member,**

We are excited to share [this article](#) with you from Vox that features our efforts to make a birth control pill available over the counter in the US. This work is moving forward unlike never before thanks to our work together. We are so grateful for the opportunity collaborate with you to proactively increase access to birth control. We hope this helps ring in some New Year cheer for 2017.

The information about our partnership with HRA Pharma is now open to the public. We encourage you to share the news and this article widely. Here are a few suggested messages to share on social media:

- Any over-the-counter birth control pill must be affordable, covered by insurance, and available to all. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- True access = affordability. Over-the-counter or prescribed, insurance must cover birth control pills. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- #freethpill for access and autonomy over reproductive health. <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- Birth control pills are popular, safe, and effective but there are too many barriers to access them. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- The Pill has been studied for 50+ years. Research and experience show they are safe for OTC use. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- No one should be denied access to safe and effective birth control because of unnecessary barriers. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- Over-the-counter birth control pills couldn't replace insurance coverage. It's 1 way to increase access #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- If someone is at risk for unintended pregnancy, they should have access to birth control pills. #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>
- Birth control pill barriers are so 2016. Cheers to increasing access in 2017 and years to come! #freethpill <http://bit.ly/2iOb7OB>

We always encourage you to share and engage with information from [freethpill.org](http://freethpill.org) and its social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Please [email](#) or call (1-434-328-2393) Britt for media inquiries.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Happy New Year!

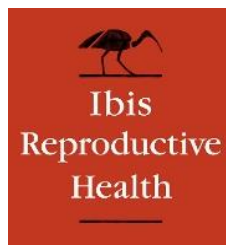


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## About us

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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