



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health

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KAREN REMLEY, MD, MBA, FAAP  
STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

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February 2, 2012

Dear Colleague,

Many of you may have heard stories on the news about the recent recall of birth control pills. Some of your patients may express concerns or have questions about how the recall affects them. The manufacturer, Pfizer, is recalling 14 lots of Lo/Ovral-28 and 14 lots of Norgestrel and Ethinyl Estradiol Tablets (Generic).

After an investigation, Pfizer discovered that the packs may contain an incorrect number of placebo or active ingredient tablets and that the tablets may be out of sequence. **As a result, there is possibility that some women taking this brand of contraceptive may be at risk for an unintended pregnancy.**

At this time, the manufacturer is encouraging patients to return any affected product to their pharmacy, and to notify their physician. Patients may contact you with questions about the pill's effectiveness and the potential risk of pregnancy; I am providing you with the information line set up by the manufacturer. You or your patients can call, 1-877-509-3935, with questions.

Additional information, including a list of the affected lot numbers and the manufacturer's press release, can be found at the FDA MedWatch webpage at <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm289803.htm?source=govdelivery>.

Thank you for taking time to share this important update with your patients.

Sincerely,

Karen Remley, MD, MBA, FAAP  
State Health Commissioner