OVULEN-21®

Each tablet contains ethynodiol diacetate 1 mg., mestranol 0.1 mg.

GIVES HER TIME

Your prescription for Ovulen-21 gives the new mother time to meet her family's present needs... to plan for her family's future.

She can take Ovulen-21 confidently and comfortably month after month. Its dependability is enhanced by its simplicity of use. A woman needs little or no time to learn the simple Ovulen-21 regimen: three weeks on—one week off. And the automatic record-keeping of the petite, virtually "patient-proof" Ovulen-21 Compack® helps to maintain her schedule...helps put time on her side.

Immediately post partum is the time

It is the time when motivation is highest—when a new mother needs expert advice for the future, so she can space her children and limit her family.

It is also the most opportune time, since she is conveniently present in the hospital, for her to be given both instructions and a prescription.

Non-nursing mothers may begin Ovulen-21 immediately after delivery, on the day of departure from the hospital or at the first postpartum visit, as desired. It is recommended that nursing mothers begin Ovulen-21 four weeks after delivery.

A small fraction of the hormonal agents in oral contraceptive pills has been identified in the milk of mothers receiving these drugs. The long-range effect on the nursing infant cannot be determined at this time.

Indication—Oral contraception.

Contraindications—Thrombophlebitis, thromboembolic disorders, cerebral apoplexy or a past history of these conditions, markedly impaired liver function, known or suspected carcinoma of the breast, known or suspected estrogen-dependent neoplasia, undiagnosed abnormal genital bleeding.

Warnings—Watch for the earliest manifestations of thrombotic disorders (thrombophlebitis, cerebrovascular disorders, pulmonary embolism, retinal thrombosis); if present or suspected discontinue the drug immediately.

British studies reported in April 1968[1,2] estimate there is a seven- to tenfold increase in mortality and morbidity due to thromboembolic diseases in women taking oral contraceptives. In these controlled retrospective studies, involving 36 reported deaths and 58 hospitalizations due to "idiopathic" thromboembolism, statistical evaluation indicated that the differences observed between users and non-users were highly significant. The conclusions reached in the studies are summarized in the table below:

Comparison of Mortality and Hospitalization Rates Due to Thromboembolic Disease in Users and Non-Users of Oral Contraceptives in Britain.

Category	Mortality Rates		Hospitalization Rates (Morbidity)
	Age 20-34	Age 35-44	Age 20-44
Users of Oral Contraceptives	1.5/100,000	3.9/100,000	47/100,000
Non-Users	0.2/100,000	0.6/100,000	5/100,000

No comparable studies are yet available in the United States. The British data, especially as they indicate the magnitude of the increased risk to the individual patient, cannot be applied directly to women in other countries in which the incidences of spontaneously occurring thromboembolic disease may differ.

Discontinue medication pending examination if there is sudden partial or complete loss of vision, or sudden onset of proptosis, diplopia or migraine. Withdraw medication if papilledema or retinal vascular lesions are found.

Since the safety of Ovulen in pregnancy has not been demonstrated, it is recommended that pregnancy be ruled out for any patient who has missed two consecutive periods before continuing the contraceptive regimen. If the patient has not adhered to the prescribed schedule the possibility of pregnancy should be considered at the first missed period.

A small fraction of the hormone agents in oral contraceptives has been identified in the milk of mothers receiving these drugs. The long-range effect on the nursing infant cannot be determined at this time.

Precautions—Pretreatment physical examination should include special reference to the breasts and pelvic organs, and a Papanicolaou smear.

Endocrine and possibly liver function tests may be affected by Ovulen. Therefore, it is recommended that such tests if abnormal be repeated after the drug has been withdrawn for two months.

Pre-existing uterine fibromyomas may increase in size under the influence of progestogen-estrogen preparations.

Because these agents may cause some degree of fluid retention, conditions which might be influenced by this factor, such as epilepsy, migraine, asthma, cardiac or renal dysfunction, require careful observation.

In breakthrough bleeding, and all irregular vaginal bleeding, consider nonfunctional causes. Adequate diagnostic measures are indicated in undiagnosed vaginal bleeding.

Carefully observe patients with a history of psychic depression and discontinue the drug if severe depression recurs.

Any possible influence of prolonged Ovulen therapy on pituitary, ovarian, adrenal, hepatic or uterine function awaits further study.

A decrease in glucose tolerance has occurred in a significant percentage of patients on oral contraceptives. The mechanism of this decrease is obscure. For this reason, diabetic patients should be observed carefully while receiving Ovulen.

Because of the effects of estrogens on epiphyseal closure Ovulen should be used judiciously in young patients in whom bone growth is not complete.

The age of the patient constitutes no absolute limiting factor, although Ovulen therapy may mask the onset of the climacteric.

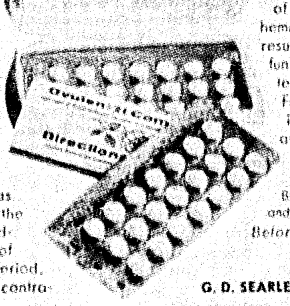
The pathologist should be informed of Ovulen therapy when relevant specimens are submitted.

Adverse Reactions—A statistically significant association has been shown between use of oral contraceptives and the following serious adverse reactions: thrombophlebitis, pulmonary embolism.

Although available evidence is suggestive of an association, such a relationship has been neither confirmed nor refuted for the following serious adverse reactions: cerebrovascular accidents, neuro-ocular lesions, e.g., retinal thrombosis and optic neuritis.

The following adverse reactions are known to occur in patients receiving oral contraceptives: nausea, vomiting, gastrointestinal symptoms (such as abdominal cramps and bloating), breakthrough bleeding, spotting, change in menstrual flow, amenorrhea during and after treatment, edema, chloasma or melasma, breast changes (tenderness, enlargement, secretion), change in weight, changes in cervical erosion and cervical secretions, suppression of lactation when given immediately post partum, cholestatic jaundice, migraine, allergic rash, rise in blood pressure in susceptible individuals, mental depression.

Although the following adverse reactions have been reported in users of oral contraceptives, an association has been neither confirmed nor refuted: anovulation post treatment, premenstrual-like syndrome, changes in libido, changes in appetite, cystitis-like syndrome, headache, nervousness, dizziness, fatigue, backache, hirsutism, loss of scalp hair, erythema multiforme and nodosum, hemorrhagic eruption, itching. The following laboratory results may be altered by oral contraceptives: hepatic function; increased sulfobromophthalein and other tests; coagulation tests; increase in prothrombin, Factors VII, VIII, IX and X; thyroid function; increase in PBI and butanol extractable protein bound iodine, and decrease in T^3 uptake values; metyrapone test; pregnanediol determination.



References: 1. Inman, W. H. W., and Vessey, M. P.: Brit. Med. J. 2:193-199 (April 27) 1968. 2. Vessey, M. P., and Doll, R.: Brit. Med. J. 2:199-205 (April 27) 1968.

Before prescribing see complete prescribing information.

Where "The Pill" Began

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