POLICY & PRACTICE

Bisphenol-A Is Focus Again

The Food and Drug Administration is conducting a new safety review of the chemical bisphenol-A in consumer products such as food containers. Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, recently wrote to the FDA to request that officials reevaluate the Bush administration's conclusion that the chemical is safe at current exposure levels, especially in light of the agency's reliance on industry studies. At a health subcommittee hearing in June, FDA Commissioner Dr. Margaret A. Hamburg told lawmakers that the agency's acting chief scientist, Dr. Jesse Goodman, would head up the review and that it could be completed by this fall. Rep. Waxman has called on the FDA to determine not only whether its interaction with industry groups during the review of bisphenol-A was appropriate, but also whether the agency's processes in such reviews need to be changed.

Abortion Discrimination Case Settled

The former head of an ob.gyn. residency program in Phoenix has reached a \$1.4 million settlement with his former employer, Maricopa County, after alleging that he was discriminated against for supporting abortion training of residents. Dr. J. Christopher Carey claimed in a 2005 lawsuit that he was removed from his position at Maricopa Medical Center because he publicly opposed the county's plan to eliminate abortion training. He asserted that his first amendment rights had been violated and that officials had discriminated against him for his moral and religious beliefs. In a statement through the law firm representing him, Dr. Carey said, "I am extremely pleased with the settlement, but it's important to remember that the shortage of abortion providers in this country is extensive." Although he settled with the county and its health care system, Dr. Carey's case remains open against two individuals with whom he worked.

CMS to Review Cervical PET Scans

Officials at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will evaluate whether to cover positron emission tomography more broadly for the staging of cervical cancer outside of clinical studies, the Gray Sheet reported. PET is covered without data collection requirements during the initial treatment phase for cervical cancer only if conventional imaging is negative for extrapelvic metastasis. The CMS already covers PET outside of clinical studies for some cervical cancer patients in subsequent treatment phases, such as in determining whether cancer treatments have been effective or whether post-treatment symptoms can be attributed to a recurrence. CMS plans to issue a proposed decision memo in November and a final ruling by February 2010. The Gray Sheet and OB.GYN. NEWS are both owned by Elsevier.

Fertility Bill Wins More Support

Legislation aimed at helping men and women with fertility problems access

costly, high-tech treatments has a new champion in the Senate. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) has pledged to introduce The Family Building Act in the Senate. The bill was originally introduced in the House by Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.). The House bill (H.R. 697) would expand coverage for fertility treatments by requiring insurance carriers to cover technologies such as in vitro fertilization, gamete intrafallopian transfer, and intracytoplasmic sperm injection. Sen. Gilli-

brand estimates that the legislation would help one in eight American couples affected by infertility.

Childbirth Injuries Drop Sharply

The number of potentially avoidable injuries to women during childbirth fell by more than 20% between 2000 and 2006, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The drop was 30% among mothers who gave birth vaginally without the use of forceps or other instruments. Overall in 2006, there were nearly 158,000 potentially avoidable childbirth injuries to mothers and newborns. The highest rate of obstetrical injuries occurred during vaginal births with instruments. Mothers with private insurance also had higher rates of obstetrical trauma than women with Medicaid coverage. Conversely, newborns covered by Medicaid had higher injury rates than those under private insurance. Blacks and Hispanics had lower newborn- and maternal-injury rates during vaginal deliveries than did whites. The findings are based on community hospital data from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project.

-Mary Ellen Schneider

Mirena®

(levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine system)

BRIEF SUMMARY CONSULT PACKAGE INSERT FOR FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION PATIENTS SHOULD BE COUNSELED THAT THIS PRODUCT DOES NOT PROTECT AGAINST HIV INFECTION (AIDS) AND OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

- Rumaro IIII CATIONS AND USAGE Mirena is indicated for intrauterine contraception for up to 5 years. Thereafter, if continued contraception is desired, the system should be replaced. Mirena is recommended for women who have had at least one child.
- Mittella la recommenced on volner who have have been and a second on some. **CONTRAINDECATIONS** Mirena is contraindicated when one or more of the following conditions exist: 1. Pregnancy or suspicion of pregnancy. 2. Congenital or acquired uterine anomaly including fibroids if they distort the tensor of the context of the second sec
- Congenital or acquired uterine anomaly including fibroids if they distort the uterine cavity.
 Acute pelvic inflammatory disease or a history of pelvic inflammatory disease unless there has been a subsequent instruction pregnancy.
 Postpartum endometrills or inflected abortion in the past 3 months.
 Known or suspected uterine or cervical neplasta or unresolved, abnormal Pap smear.
 Gential bleeding of unknown etiology.
 Untreated cavit cervical in organisa or unresolved, abnormal Pap smear.
 Gential bleeding of unknown etiology.
 Untreated cavit cervical in organisa or unresolved, abnormal Pap smear.
 Gential bleeding associated with increased susceptibility to pelvic infections.
 A previously inserted IUD that has not been removed.
 Hypersensitivity to any component of this product.
 Known or suspected carinoma of the breast.
 MARNING

12. Known or suspected ćarcinoma of the breast. WARNINGS 1. Ectopic Pregnancy Evaluate women who become pregnant while using Mirena for ectopic pregnancy. Up to half of pregnancies that occur with Mirena in place are ectopic. The incidence of ectopic pregnancy in clinical trials that excluded women with risk factors for ectopic pregnancy was about 1 ectopic pregnancy per Volou serse per year. Tell women who choose Mirena about the risks of ectopic pregnancy, including the loss of fertility. Teach them to recognize and report to their physician promptly any symptoms of ectopic pregnancy. Women with a previous history of ectopic pregnancy, that surgery or pelvic infection carry a higher risk of ectopic pregnancy. The risk of ectopic pregnancy in women who have a history of ectopic pregnancy and use Mirena is unknown. Clinical trials of Mirena excluded women with a history of ectopic pregnancy.

Pregnancy:
2. Intracterine Pregnancy
(if pregnancy should occur with Mirena in place, Mirena should be removed. Removal or
manipulation of Mirena may result in pregnancy floss. In the event of an intrauterine
pregnancy with Mirena, consider the following:
Careful abrition
(if the abrition)
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- Septic abortion In patients becoming pregnant with an IUD in place, septic abortion—with septicemia, septic shock, and death—may occur.
- In patients becoming pregnant with an IUU in place, septic abortion—with septicemia, septic shock, and dealh—may occur. Continuation of pregnancy If a woman becomes pregnant with Mirena in place and if Mirena cannot be removed or the woman chooses not to have it removed, she should be warned that failure to remove Mirena increases the risk of microarcings, specify and advised to report immediately any flu-like symptoms. Tever, chills, caramipping, pain, bleeding, varginal discharge or leakage of fluid. L. cong-term effects and congenital anomalies When pregnancy continues with Mirena in place, long-term effects on the offspring are unknown. As of September 2006, 390 live births out of an estimated 9.9 million Mirena users had been reported. Congenital anomalies in live births have occurred infrequently. No clear trend towards specific anomalies has been observed. Because of the intrauterine administration of levonorgestre and local exposure of the featus to the hormone, hose currently used for oral contraception. Whener these data apply to Mirena is unknown. Sepsisi

these data apply to Mirena is unknown. 3. Sepsis As of September 2006, 9 cases of Group A streptococcal sepsis (GAS) out of an estimated \$9 million Mirena users had been reported. In some cases, severe pain occurred within hours of insertion followed by sepsis within days. Because death from GAS is more they if treatment indelayed, it is important to be aware of these rare but serious indicos. As a strength of the second of the second of the second but serious also occur postpartum, after surgery, and from wounds. **A : Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (FID)** Mirena is contraindicated in the presence of known or suspected PID or in women with a history of PID unless there has been a subsequent intrauterine pregnancy. Use of IUDs has been associated with an increased risk of PID. The highest risk of PID occurs shortly after insertion (usually within the rist 20 days themately (see PREAUTIONS, Insertion Precautions). A decision to use Mirena must include consideration of the risks of PID. PID is often associated with a sexually transmitted disease, and Mirena does not protect against sexually transmitted disease. The risk of PID is greater for women who have multiple sexual partners, wind has the value of DI are at increased risk tor a recurrence or re-infection. PID varming to Mirena users

- recurrence or re-infection. b. PID varning to Mirena users All women who choose Mirena must be informed prior to insertion about the possibility of PID and rates that damage leading to ectopic pregnarcy or infertility, or infrequently can necessitate hysterectomy, or cause death. Patients must be taught to recognize and report to their physician promptly any symptoms of pelvic inflammatory disease. These symptoms include development of menstrual dis-orders (prolonged or heavy bleeding), unusual vaginal discharge, abdominal or pelvic pain or tendemess, dyspareunia, chills, and fever. C. Asymptomatic PID PID may be asymptomatic but still result in tubal damage and its sequelae.

PID may be asymptomatic but still result in tubal damage and its sequelae.
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7. Perforation Perforation or penetration of the uterine wall or cervix may occur during in the perforation may not be detected until some time later. If perforation oc Perforation or penetration or une useme way so convergence of the perforation may not be detected unit isome time later. If perforation occurs, pregnancy may result (see WARNINGS, Ectopic Pregnancy and Intrauterine Pregnancy). Mirene must be located and removed, supery may be required. Delayed detection of perforation may result in migration outside the uterine cavity, adhesions, peritonitis, intestina meforations. Intestinal obstruction, abscesses and eroson of adjacent viscena. The risk of perforation may be increased in lactating women, in women with fixed retroverted uteri, and during the postpartum period. To decrease the risk of perforation postpartum, Mireran insertion should be delayed a minimum of 8 weeks after delivery or until uterine involution is complete. If involution is substantially delayed, consider waiting until 12 weeks postpartum. Inserting Mireran immediately after first trimester abortion is not known to increase the risk of perforation, but insertion after second timester abortion should be delayed until uterine involution is complete. 8. Expulsion

ete expulsion of Mirena may occur (see PRECAUTIONS, Co Partial or com and Removal and Removal). Symptoms of the partial or complete exputision of any IUD may include bleeding or pain. However, the system can be expelled from the uterine cavity without the woman noticing it. Partial exputision may decrease the effectiveness of Mireria. As meeting and the hybridily decreases after the first 30 6 months of Mireria use, an increase of menstrual flow may be indicative of an exputision. It exputision has occurred, Mirena may be replaced within 7 days of a menstrual period after pregnancy has been ruled out.

7 days of a menstrual period after pregnancy has been ruled out.
4. Ovarian Cysts
Since the contraceptive effect of Mirena is mainly due to its local effect, ovulatory cycles with follicular rupture usually occur in women of fertile age using Mirena.
Sometimes attrasts of the follice is delayed and the follice may continue to grow.
charged follicies are asymptomatic, atthough some may be accompanied by pelvice of the subjects using Mirena.
Most of these follicies are asymptomatic, atthough some may be accompanied by pelvic, and or dyspareunia. In most cases the enlarged follicies disappear spontaneously during wor to three morths observation. Persistent enlarged follicies should be evaluated. Surgical the vender during the should be evaluated. Normal Anneer Women who currently have or have had breast cancer, or have a suspicion of breast cancer, should not use hormonal contraception because breast cancer is a

rmone-sensitive tumor. ontaneous reports of breast cancer have been received during postmarketing berience with Mirena. Because spontaneous reports are voluntary and from a population uncertain size, it is not possible to use post-marketing data to reliably estimate the quency or establish causal relationship to drug exposure. Two observational studies are not provided evidence of an increased risk of breast cancer during the use of Mirena.

11. Risks of Mortality The available data from a variety of sources have been analyzed to estimate the risk of death associated with various methods of contraception. These estimates include the combined risk of the contraceptive method plus the risk of pregnancy or abortion in the event of method failure. The findings of the analysis are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Annual Number of Birth-Related or Method-Related Deaths Associated with Control of Fertility per 100.000 Nonsterile Women, by Fertility Control Method

According to Age											
AGE GROUP											

METHODS	15–19 years	20–24 years	25–29 years	30–34 years	35–39 years	40–44 years
No Birth Control Method/Term	4.7	5.4	4.8	6.3	11.7	20.6
No Birth Control Method/Abortion	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.9	2.8	5.3
IUD Periodic Abstinence Withdrawal Condom Diaphragm/Cap Sponge Spermicides Oral Contraceptives Implants/Injectables	0.2 1.4 0.9 0.6 0.6 0.8 1.6 0.8 0.2	0.3 1.3 1.7 1.2 1.1 1.5 1.9 1.3 0.6	0.2 0.7 0.9 0.6 0.6 0.8 1.4 1.1 0.5	0.1 1.0 1.3 0.9 0.9 1.1 1.9 1.8 0.8	0.3 1.0 0.8 0.5 1.6 2.2 1.5 1.0 0.5	0.6 1.9 1.5 1.0 3.1 4.1 2.7 1.9 0.6
Tubal Sterilization	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3

Harlap S. et al., Preventing Pregnancy, protecting health: a new look at birth control choices in the US. The Alan Guttmacher Institute 1991: 1-129

PAREAUTIONS PATIENTS SHOULD BE COUNSELED THAT THIS PRODUCT DOES NOT PROTECT Against hiv infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.

PAILINTS SMULLU BE QUIPSELED INTEL TIME TIME TIME TIME TABLEST. AGAINST HIV INFECTION (AIDS) AND OTHER SEXULLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES. 1. Patient Counseling Information Prior to insertion, give the patient the Patient Information Booklet. She should be given the opportunity to read the information and discuss fully any questions she may have concerning Minera as well as other methods to contraception. Also, advise the patient that the prescribing information is available to her upon request. Careful and objective counseling of the patient prior to insertion regarding the expected bledding pattern, the possible inter-individual variation in changes in bledding, including amenoritine, and the etiology of the changes may have an effect on the frequency of patient-requested removal. The patient should be informed that some bleeding such as irregular or prolonged bledding and spotting, and/or cramps may occur during the first few weeks after provider. She spond also be given instructions on what other crymtoms regime her to call her healthcare provider. She should be informed from the cervix and cardinoed not to put on the threads and displace Mirena. She should be informed that there is no contraceptive protection if Mirena is displaced or expelled. 2. Patient Evaluation and Clinical Considerations

Patient Evaluation and Clinical Considerations

 A complete medical and social history, including that of the partner, should be obtained to determine conditions that might influence the selection of an IUD for contraception (see CONTRAINDICATIONS).

- obtained to determine conditions that might influence the selection of an IUD for contraception (see **CONTRAINDIGATIONS**). **NOTE:** Special attention must be given to ascertaining whether the worman is at increased risk to infection (for example, leukema, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (ADS). I.V. drug abuse), or has a history of PID unless there has been a subsequent instauterine preparancy. Mirena is contraindicated in these women. A physical examination should include a petvic examination. Apa smear, examination of the breasts, and appropriate tests for any other forms of genila doratory evaluations, if indicated. Use of Mirena in patients with vaginitis or cervicitis should be postponed until proper treatment has eradicated the lineticion and until if has been shown that the cervicitis is not due to gonorrhea or chamydia (see **CONTRAINDICATIONS**). Irregular bleeding raw marks symptoms and signs of endometrial polypes or cancer. Because irregular bleeding/spotting is common during the first months of Mirena use, exclude endmeritai pathology prior to the insertion of Mirena in women with persistent or uncharacteristic bleeding. If unexplained bleeding irregularities develop during the proteing provider should determine that ediagnostic mascures should be taken. (See WARNINGS, Irregular Bleeding and Amenorrhea.) The healthcare provider should determine the the patient is not preparant. The
- persistent of unclain-tests to becauting. In Unexplained Diebong III regularities bevelop during the project use of Mirera, appropriate diagnositic measures should be taken. (See WARNINGS, Irregular Bleeding and Amenorrhea.) The healthcare provider should determine that the patient is not pregnant. The possibility of insertion of Mirena in the presence of an existing undetermined pregnancy is reduced if insertion is performed within 7 days of the onset of a menstrula period. Mirena can be replaced by a new system at any time in the cycle. Mirena should not be inserted until 6 weeks postpartum or until involution of the uterus is complete in order to reduce the incidence of perforation and expusion. If involution is substantially delayed, consider waiting until 12 weeks postpartum (see WARNINGS, Perforation). Patients with certain types of valvular or congenital heart disease and surgically constructed systemic-pulmonary shurts are al increased risk of indexe endocarities. Use of Mirena in these patients may represent a potential source of septic emboli. Patients with certain types of valvular or congenital heart disease finds thus be treated with appropriate antibiotics at the time of insertion and removal. Patients regulang chronic corticosteroid threapy or insulin for diabetes should be monitored with special care for infection. Mirena should be used with caucin in patients who have: coequiopathy or are receiving anticoaquiants migraine, find and margine with asymmetrical visual loss or other symptoms indicating transient cerebra lischemia severe transiel disease such as stoke or myocardial infarction severe and id disease such as stoke or myocardial infarction marked increase of blood pressure

Sorder anema lossess source seven Insertion Presentations
 Observe strict asepsis during insertion. The presence of organisms capable of establishing PID cannot be determined by appearance, and IUD insertion may be associated with introduction of vaginal bacteria into the uterus. Administration of antibiotics may be considered, but the utility of this treatment is unknown.

- Carefully sound the uterus prior to Mirena insertion to determine the degree of patency of the endocervical canal and the internal os, and the direction and depth of the uterine cavity. In occasional cases, severe cervical stenois may be encountered. Do rol use excessive force to overcome this resistance. Fundal positioning of Mirena is important to prevent expusion and maximize efficacy. Therefore, follow the instructions for the insertion carefully. If the patient develops decreased pulse, perspiration, or pallor, have her remain supine until these signs resolve. Insertion may be associated with some pain and/or bleeding. Syncope, bradycardia, or other neurovascular episodes may occur during insertion of Mirena, especially in patients with a predisposition to these conditions or cervical stenosis.
- nese continuous of cervical sectors. ontinuation and Removal Reexamine and evaluate patients 4 to 12 weeks after insertion and once a year hereafter, or more frequently if clinically indicated. Thereafter, or more frequently if dinically indicated. If the threads are not visible, they may have retracted into the uterus or broken, or Mirena may have broken, perforated the uterus, or bene expelied (see WARINIGS, Perforation and Exputsion). If the length of the threads has changed from the length at time of insertion, the system may have become displaced. Pregnancy must be excluded and the location of Mirena verified, for example, by sonography. X-ray, or by genitie exploration of the uterus cavity with a probe. If Mirena is displaced, temoveit, A new Mirena may be inserted at that time or during the next evidence of performation, in intervention is indicated. If Mirena is in place with no Promptly examine users with complaints of pain, odrous discharge, unexplained bedring (see WARINIGS, trregular Bleeding and Amenorrhea), fever, genital lesions or sorse.

- Promptly examine users with complaints of pain, odorous discharge, unexplained bleding (see WARNINGS, Irregular Bleeding and Amenorrhea), fevr, genital lesions or sores.
 Consider the possibility of ectopic pregnancy in the case of lower abdominal pain especially in association with missed periods or if an amenorrheic woman starts bleeding (see WARNINGS, Ectopic Pregnancy).
 In the event a pregnancy is confirmed during Mirena use:
 Determine whether pregnancy is ectopic and, So, take appropriate measures.
 Inform patient of the risks of leaving Mirena in place or removing it during pregnancy and of the lack of data on long-term effects on the offspring of women who have had Mirena in place during conception or gestation (see WARNINGS, Ectopicand).
 If possible, Mirena should be removed after the patient has been warned of the risks of removal. If removal is difficult, the patient should be conseled and offered pregnancy carrination.
 If Mirena is the patient's course should be followed closely.
 Should the patient's relationship cases to be mutually monogamous, or should he patient by obstive, or capire as exaulty transmitted desaes, she should be instructed to report this change to her clinician immediatel. The use of a barrier method as a patient precomagnite aquiring securities acaulty association.
 Mirena should be removed of Mirena should be considered.
 Mirena should be removed of Mirena should be considered.
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 Mirena should be removed (ALDS)
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- severe dyspareunia pregnancy endometrial or cervical malignancy uterine or cervical perforation ternice and the system should also be considered if any of the following conditions rise for the first time: migraine, focal migraine with asymmetrical visual loss or other symptoms indicating transient cerebral is choemia exceptionally severe headache jaundice

Removal may be associated with pair and/or bleeding of neurovascular episodes. Slucose Tolerance onorgestrel may affect glucose tolerance, and the blood glucose concentration uld be monitored in diabetic users of Mirena.

Should be intermediate an exact of the contraceptive efficacy of Mirena has not been studied. The influence of drugs on the contraceptive efficacy of Mirena has not been studied the metabolism of progestogens may be increased by concomilant use of substances known to induce drug-metabolizing liver enzymes, specifically cytochrome P450 enzymes.

Norm to induce a grant and the set of the

Pregnancy
 Pregnancy Category X (see WARNINGS).

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Bayer HealthCare

Pharmaceuticals

Bayer HealthCare Pharmac Wayne, NJ 07470

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Manufactured in Finland

Fuguratory Category A (See Warmingo). Nursing Mothers general, no adverse effects have been found on breastfeeding performance or on the eaith, growth, or development of the infant. However, isolated post-marketing cases of ercrased milk production have been reported. Small amounts of progestins pass into the reast milk of nursing mothers, resulting in detectable steroid levels in infant plasma. Also, ee WARNINGS, Perforation.

10. Pediatric Use Safety and efficacy of Mirena have been established in women of reproductive age. Use of this product before menarche is not indicated.

11. Geriatric Use Mirena has not been studied in women over age 65 and is not currently approved for use in this population.

and the population.
 12. Return to Fertility About 80% of women wishing to become pregnant conceived within 12 months after removal of Mirena.

The most serious adverse reactions associated with the use of Mirena are discussed above in the WRANINGS and PRECAUTIONS sections. Very common adverse reactions (>1/10 users) include uterine/vaginal bleeding (including spotting, irregular bleeding, heavy bleeding, biggers bleeding, bleeding (including spotting, irregular bleeding, heavy bleeding, biggers bleeding, bleeding,

Depressed mood Depressed mood Cervicitis/Papanicolaou smear normal, class II Hypertension Other relevant reported adverse reactions occurring in less than 5% of subjects include: migraine, vomiting, anemia, dyspareunia, alopecia, eczema, pruntus, rash, urticaria, abdominal distension, altered mood, hirsutism, edema.

abdominal distension, access and a second se

July 2008