PRODUCTS

Continuous Glucose Monitor

The Food and Drug Administration has approved a device that measures glucose for up to 7 days in people with diabetes. The STS-7 Continuous Glucose Monitoring System includes a subcutaneous, patientinsertable sensor that wirelessly transmits glucose readings to a handheld receiver, providing real-time measurements and trend information. Sensor placement causes minimal discomfort. The sensor must be replaced weekly. For more information, contact DexCom Inc., by calling 858-200-0200 or visiting www.dexcom.com.

Office Diagnostic Lab Analyzer

The Data Pro Plus is a compact, automated benchtop analyzer designed for routine diagnostic laboratory use in physician offices. It has a throughput of up to 230 tests per hour, onboard reagent management, and unlimited storage capacity for patient and control data. For more information, contact Thermo Scientific at 800-588-9115.

Coverlets for Breast-Feeding in Public

Bébé au Lait nursing coverlets are available for women who prefer to cover up when they breast-feed in public. The covers feature a patented rigid neckline that allows mother and child to see each other. They cost \$35, are made of European fabrics, and are available at upscale baby and maternity boutiques. For more information, visit www.bebeaulait.com.

Tissue Expander Helps Healing

The DermaClose RC Continuous External Tissue Expander facilitates the closure of large wounds by expanding the skin surrounding the wound until it can be sutured. The device has 10 skin anchors and a tension controller to prevent overtightening. In most cases, the wound can be sutured within 24 hours, which results in lowering both the costs and risks associated with wound healing. For more information or to order the product, visit www.woundcaretech.com.

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Public Diabetes Prevention Initiative The American Diabetes Association (ADA) has launched CheckUpAmerica, which is aimed at people who are at risk of type 2 diabetes and heart disease. The initiative encourages people older than 40 years to have regular checkups and take steps to reduce their risk. The program includes a nationwide radio media tour by Dr. John Buse of the ADA. An online personal assessment tool will be available later this year. For more information, visit the ADA's Web site, www.CheckUpAmerica.org.

Quality Reporting Answers Online

More than 50 frequently asked questions about the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative are available on the Web site of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Visit www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI and scroll down to the "Related Links Inside CMS" section. Click on the "All PQRI FAQs" link to access the list.

FDA Guidance on Drug Safety

A new guidance document from the Food and Drug Administration, "Drug Safety Information—FDA's Communication to the Public" facilitates patient and provider access to information about a drug's risks and benefits. It supersedes the draft guidance "FDA's 'Drug Watch' for Emerging Drug Safety Information" and is available at www.fda.gov/cder/guidance/7477fnl.htm.

Doctor-Patient Partnering Guide

The American Medical Association and the American Association of Retired Persons have produced a free pamphlet that outlines shared responsibilities with a goal to improve patient safety by encouraging patients to be partners with physicians in managing their health. For more information, contact the AMA by visiting www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/up load/mm/370/amaaarpmessage.pdf.

SEASONIQUE[™]

(levonorgestrel / ethinyl estradiol tablets) 0.15 mg / 0.03 mg and (ethinyl estradiol tablets) 0.01 mg Brief Summary. See full package brochure for complete information. Patients should be counseled that this product does not protect against HIV-infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases. CONTRAINDICATIONS: Oral contraceptives should not be used in women who currently have the following conditions: • Thrombophlebitis or thromboembolic disorders • A past history of deep vein thrombophlebitis or thromboembolic disorders • Cerebrovascular or coronary artery disease (current or history) • Valvular heart disease with thrombogenic complications • Uncontrolled hypertension • Diabetes with vascular involvement • Headaches with focal neurological symptoms • Major surgery with prolonged immobilization • Known or suspected carcinoma of the breast or personal history of Cholestatic jaundice of pregnancy or jaundice with prior pill use + Hepatic adenomas or carcinomas, or active liver disease • Known or suspected
 Cholestatic jaundice of pregnancy or jaundice with prior pill use + Hepatic adenomas or carcinomas, or active liver disease • Known or suspected pregnancy • Hypersensitivity to any component of this product

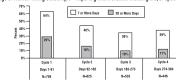
VARNINGS Cligarette smoking increases the risk of serious cardiovascular side effects from oral contraceptive use. This risk increases with age and with heavy smoking (15 or more cigarettes per day) and is quite marked in women over 35 years of age. Women who use oral contraceptives should be strong thorning of a to the size of the size of

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Reference: 1. Data on file. Duramed Pharmaceuticals Inc, Pomona, NY.

findings of minimal risk may be related to the use of oral contraceptive formulations containing lower hormonal doses of estrogens and progestogens. 8. Carbohydrate and Lipid Metabolic Effects: Oral contraceptives have been shown to cause glucose intolerance in a significant percentage of users. Oral contraceptives contraceptives containing greater than 75 micrograms of estrogens cause levels (beard contraceptives) and the percentage of users. Oral contraceptives c

Figure: Percentage of Women Taking Seasonique™ Reporting Intermenstrual Bleeding and/or Spotting.



As in any case of bleeding irregularities, nonhormonal causes should always be considered and adequate diagnostic measures taken to rule out malignancy or pregnancy. In the event of amenormea, pregnancy should be ruled out. Some women may encounter post-pill amenormea or oligomenormea (possibly with anouvalation), especially when such a condition was preexistent. PRECAUTIONS

Wind advalution, especially wind sourt a contained was precision. PPECAUTIONS 1. Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Patients should be counseled that this product does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually trans-mitted disease.
2. Physical Examination and Follow-up: A periodic history and physical examination are appropriate for all women, including women using oral contracep-tions. The physical examination should include special reference to blood pressure, breasts, abdomen and pelvic organs, including cervical cytology, and rel-evant laboratory tests. In case of undiagnosed, persistent or recurrent abnormal vaginal bleeding, appropriate diagnostic measures should be conducted to rule un maintained. Where we have the other of the preliable maintained in the best conducted to rule undiagnost. Women with a strong minih isotory of thereindenians should be followed dosely if they dect to use call contraception metab-olism receiving estrogen-containing preparations, there have been case eropts of significant elevators of hasma trighcerides leading to parcreatins.
4. Liver Function: If junctice develops in any woman receiving such drugs, the medication should be discontinued. Steroid hormones may be porty metab-olism receiving estrogen-containing preparations, there have been case eropts of significant elevators of hasma trighcerides leading to parcreatins.

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OVERDOSAGE: Serious ill effects have not been reported following acute ingestion of large doses of oral contraceptives by young children. Overdosage may

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