

Medical Study Finds Link Between YAZ / Yasmin And Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) Coming From Drospirenone (DRSP) Progestin

Other DRSP Birth Control Pills Which Are Implicated By This New Finding Include Beyaz, Safyral, Ocella, Gianvi, Zarah, Loryna, Syeda, And Vestura

(Posted by Tom Lamb at www.DrugInjuryWatch.com on June 12, 2012; see <http://bit.ly/LRx8ks>)

In the February 1, 2012 edition of *Current Drug Safety* there is an article, "[Irritable bowel syndrome and drospirenone-containing oral contraceptives; a comparative-safety study](#)", which just came to our attention in June 2012.

This "new" medical journal article by Mayhar Etminan and his colleagues at the University of British Columbia reports on an apparent new side effect, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), that is associated with YAZ, Yasmin, Beyaz, and Safyral -- all from Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals -- as well as the other birth control pills / oral contraceptives (OCs) containing the synthetic progestin drospirenone (DRSP) -- which include these generic products: Ocella, Gianvi, Zarah, Loryna, Syeda, and Vestura.

From the [Abstract](#) for this DRSP - IBS medical journal article:

Background: ... Drospirenone is a synthetic progestin approved in combination with ethinyl-estradiol as an oral contraceptive (OC). It is a spironolactone-derivative, and its antimineralocorticoid effects could irritate the gastrointestinal tract leading to symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)....

Results: The cohort included 939,281 women, averaging 29.1 years of age and 247 days of OC therapy. 3,050 incident cases of IBS were detected. The annualized incidence for IBS with drospirenone was 0.77% (1083 cases) while that for levonorgestrel was 0.46% (483 cases). The crude HR for development of IBS with drospirenone compared to levonorgestrel was 1.70 (95%CI 1.53-1.90), while the adjusted HR was 1.63 (95%CI 1.46-1.82). Multiple sensitivity analyses confirmed this association. Other OCs were unassociated with IBS.

Conclusion: Our study found a positive association between drospirenone and a diagnosis of IBS that was not observed with other OCs.

We will continue to monitor this emerging drug safety issue involving irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) being associated with YAZ and Yasmin as well as the other drospirenone (DRSP) contraceptive pills from Bayer and various generic drug companies.

To this point in time, most of the concern about the safety on YAZ, Yasmin, Beyaz, Safyral, Ocella, Gianvi, etc. had been focussed on blood clot-related adverse reactions like pulmonary embolism (PE), deep vein thrombosis (DVT), strokes (CVA), and heart attacks or myocardial infarction (MI).

For more about those side effects and the lawsuits that have been filed for women who have suffered them, see the [Drospirenone \(DRSP\) Birth Control Pills information page](#) over at our Drug Injury Law web site.

Attorney [Tom Lamb](#) represents people in personal injury and wrongful death cases involving unsafe prescription drugs or medication errors. The above article was posted originally on his blog, **Drug Injury Watch** – with live links and readers' Comments.

<http://www.DrugInjuryWatch.com>