**Survey Information**

This survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete and all information is anonymous. You are free to choose not to participate at any time while completing this survey. You can choose not to answer questions if you wish. As this survey is anonymous, researchers will not be able to identify your information and therefore your survey will not be able to be withdrawn once submitted.

Please be advised that the Combined Oral Contraceptive Pill (COCP) will be referred to as ‘the pill’ for the purpose of this survey. Additionally, ‘active’ tablets refer to those which contain hormones. ‘Inactive’ tablets contain no hormones and are commonly referred to as “sugar pills”.

**Survey Questions**

Indicate your response by placing a tick or cross in the appropriate box.

**1. Your Age:** 18-20  21-25  26-30  31-35  36-40  40-50

**2. Highest level of education completed:**

Year 10 (School Certificate)  Undergraduate University degree  TAFE

Year 12 (Higher School Certificate)  Postgraduate University degree  Other …………………................

**3. Have you ever taken the pill?** Yes  No  If No, please skip to Q.8

**4. Are you currently taking the pill?** Yes  No

**5. For what period of time were you/have you been taking the pill?**

Less than 1 year  1-5 years  5-10 years  More than 10 years

**6. Have you/did you ever miss taking an active tablet?** Yes  No  Don’t Know

**7. On average, how frequently would you/did you miss taking an active tablet?**

Never  Once a week  Once every few months

Only one time  Once a month  Once a year

**8. Please select ‘Yes’, ‘No’ or ‘Don’t Know’ to best answer the following statements.**

**a)** The pill needs to be taken every day to be an effective contraceptive Yes  No  Don’t Know

**b)** The pill should be taken at approximately the same time every day Yes  No  Don’t Know

**c)** It is acceptable to continue taking active tablets without taking

the inactive tablets in between Yes  No  Don’t Know

**d)** The pill is the most effective form of contraception currently available

when used correctly Yes  No  Don’t Know

**e)** It is possible to fall pregnant while taking the pill even with perfect use Yes  No  Don’t Know

**f)** It is important to take a break from using the pill Yes  No  Don’t Know

*\* One point awarded to each correct response (indicated by a cross) and zero points for incorrect responses for a total score out of 6.*

**9. The pill uses manufactured hormones that act like normal female hormones and prevent pregnancy by (select all answers that may apply):**

Killing sperm that enter the woman’s body

Thickening mucus released from the cervix

Preventing the release of the egg (ovulation) in women

Making it harder for a developing embryo to lodge in the wall of the womb (endometrium)

Making it harder for the sperm to combine with the egg

*(Correct response indicated by a cross)*

**10. Which of the following could potentially reduce the contraceptive effect of the pill?**

Missing one active pill by less than 12 hours Yes  No  Don’t Know

Missing one active pill by more than 12 hours Yes  No  Don’t Know

Missing more than one active pill Yes  No  Don’t Know

Missing one or more inactive pill/s Yes  No  Don’t Know

St John’s Wort herbal preparation Yes  No  Don’t Know

Epilepsy medications such as phenytoin or carbamazepine Yes  No  Don’t Know

Vomiting Yes  No  Don’t Know

Severe diarrhoea Yes  No  Don’t Know

Smoking Yes  No  Don’t Know

Antibiotics such as Rifampicin and Rifabutin Yes  No  Don’t Know

Other antibiotics

*(When taken without side-effects like vomiting/diarrhoea)* Yes  No  Don’t Know

Minor alcohol consumption

*(E.g. an occasional alcoholic drink/s not on a regular basis)* Yes  No  Don’t Know

Excessive alcohol consumption

*(E.g. drinking amounts that cause vomiting, diarrhoea, poor*

*concentration or memory, or significant liver damage)*  Yes  No  Don’t Know

*\* One point awarded to each correct response (indicated by a cross) and zero points for incorrect responses for a total score out of 13.*

**11. Please indicate whether you think taking the pill decreases, has no effect, or increases the risk/s of the following:**

Ectopic pregnancy Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Birth defects Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Infertility Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Cardiovascular disease:

*(E.g. Stroke, blood clots, high blood pressure)* Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Benign (non-cancerous) breast disease Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Functional ovarian cysts Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know  Endometriosis associated pain Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Breast cancer Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Ovarian cancer Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Endometrial cancer Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Menstrual problems:

*(Irregular or painful periods, excessive bleeding)* Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Acne Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Weight gain Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Pelvic inflammatory disease Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

Contracting sexually transmitted

infections (STIs) and/or HIV Decreases  No Effect  Increases  Don’t Know

*\* One point awarded to each correct response (indicated by a cross) and zero points for incorrect responses for a total score out of 15.*

**12. Which of the following can potentially increase a woman’s risk of developing blood clots while taking the pill? Select all answers that may apply.**

Age over 35 years  Obesity  Smoking

*(Correct response indicated by a cross)*

**13. Where do you get your information regarding the pill? Select all answers that apply to you.**

General Practitioner (GP)  Friends

Other doctor (e.g. Gynaecologist)  The Internet

Family member/s  Product Information Sheet (Included in pill box)

Pharmacist  Community Health Clinic

Nurse (General Practice/Hospital/Clinic)  Other ……………………………………………………………….

Thank you for your participation. Please return the survey to box at the front desk.

\* Correct responses and the subsequent mark for questions 8, 10 and 11 were combined for a total mark out of 34. This data was utilised to create the ‘total knowledge score’ for each participant.