**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anonymous, researchers will not be able to identify your information and therefore your survey will not be able to be withdrawn once submitted.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 [x]  No [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

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

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

 the inactive tablets in between Yes [x]  No [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

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

 when used correctly Yes [ ]  No [x]  Don’t Know [ ]

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

**f)** It is important to take a break from using the pill Yes [ ]  No [x]  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 [x]

Preventing the release of the egg (ovulation) in women [x]

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

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 [x]  Don’t Know [ ]

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

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

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

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

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

Vomiting Yes [x]  No [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Severe diarrhoea Yes [x]  No [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Smoking Yes [ ]  No [x]  Don’t Know [ ]

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

Other antibiotics

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

Minor alcohol consumption

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

Excessive alcohol consumption

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

 *concentration or memory, or significant liver damage)*  Yes [x]  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 [x]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Birth defects Decreases [ ]  No Effect [x]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Infertility Decreases [ ]  No Effect [x]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Cardiovascular disease:

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

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

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

Breast cancer Decreases [ ]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [x]  Don’t Know [ ]

Ovarian cancer Decreases [x]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Endometrial cancer Decreases [x]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Menstrual problems:

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

Acne Decreases [x]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Weight gain Decreases [ ]  No Effect [x]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Pelvic inflammatory disease Decreases [x]  No Effect [ ]  Increases [ ]  Don’t Know [ ]

Contracting sexually transmitted

 infections (STIs) and/or HIV Decreases [ ]  No Effect [x]  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 [x]  Obesity [x]  Smoking [x]

*(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.