## PATIENT SAFETY BLOG

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## **Birth Control Pills Recalled**

February 10, 2012 by Patrick A. Malone

All medications carry risks and potential side effects, but seldom does a pill do precisely the opposite of what it promises.

That's why Pfizer recalled about 1 million Lo/Orval-28 and generic norgestrel birth control pills. Thanks to a packaging error, women who are taking the contraceptive risk getting pregnant.

As widely reported, the recall announcement Jan. 31 explained that some of the blister packs could contain the wrong number of pills, and that the tablets could be out of sequence.

Properly prepared packages contain 21 tablets with active ingredients, and seven with inert ingredients. Pfizer said some packages involved in the recall contained too many tablets with active ingredients, and some had too few. Although manufactured by Pfizer, the pills were distributed under the Akrimax RxProducts label.

If you use this product, notify your physician and return the tablets to the pharmacy.

For a full list of affected lot numbers, NDC number (National Drug Code) and expiration dates, consult the recall announcement. If you have questions, call Akrimax Medical Information at (877) 509-3935. If you believe you experienced an adverse event, contact the FDA MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting Program.

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