

## Drug Information Table

### Oral contraceptives – ethinyl estradiol and drospirenone (Yasmin)

Therapeutic Use	Administration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevention of pregnancy</li> <li>• Reduction in fluid retention associated with premenstrual syndrome</li> <li>• Other benefits of oral contraceptives include decreased risk for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Uterine and ovarian cancers</li> <li>◦ Pelvic inflammatory disease</li> <li>◦ Benign breast disease</li> <li>◦ Ovarian cysts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm negative pregnancy status before starting therapy.</li> <li>• Use an additional method of contraception during the first cycle.</li> <li>• Take pills at the same time each day.</li> <li>• Take according to the precise dosing schedule, typically 21 days of a drug-containing pill and 7 days of an inactive pill.</li> <li>• Follow the manufacturer's instructions for missed pills, typically taking one missed pill with the next pill, two pills for 2 consecutive days after 2 missed days, and after 3 missed days starting a new cycle 7 days later with alternative contraception in the interim.</li> </ul>	
Side/Adverse Effects	Interventions	Patient Instructions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thromboembolism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor for and report any indications of deep-vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, myocardial infarction, and cerebrovascular accident.</li> <li>• Encourage patients who smoke to quit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report leg or chest pain, leg edema, sudden change in vision, severe headache, or shortness of breath.</li> <li>• Do not smoke.</li> <li>• Stop taking at least 4 weeks before any surgery that increases the risk of thromboembolic events.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hyperkalemia (due to the drospirenone in this drug)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor potassium levels and ECG periodically.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report palpitations, paresthesias, weakness, or abdominal cramps.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension (less likely with ethinyl estradiol and drospirenone than with other combination oral contraceptives)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor blood pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain regular blood pressure checks.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uterine bleeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the pattern and amount of any reported bleeding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report any unusual breakthrough bleeding or spotting or changes in menstrual patterns.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased growth of breast malignancies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend mammograms and breast examinations at appropriate intervals.</li> <li>• Discontinue the drug for any indications of breast cancer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform self-breast examination every month.</li> <li>• Obtain a mammogram and breast examination at the recommended intervals.</li> </ul>
Contraindications	Precautions	Interactions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pregnancy (risk category X)</li> <li>• History or other risk for thromboembolic events</li> <li>• Suspected or confirmed breast cancer</li> <li>• Altered liver function</li> <li>• Altered renal or adrenal function (estradiol and drospirenone)</li> <li>• Smokers above age 35</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Diabetes mellitus</li> <li>• Heart disease</li> <li>• Migraines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE inhibitors and other drugs that can elevate serum potassium can cause hyperkalemia (due to drospirenone).</li> <li>• Rifampin (Rifadin), ritonavir (Norvir), phenobarbital (Luminal), carbamazepine (Tegretol), primidone (Mysoline), phenytoin (Dilantin), and St. John's wort can reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.</li> <li>• Oral contraceptives can reduce the effects of warfarin (Coumadin) and hypoglycemic drugs.</li> <li>• Oral contraceptives can increase levels of theophylline (Theo-24), diazepam (Valium), chlordiazepoxide (Librium), and tricyclic antidepressants.</li> </ul>