

# FDA OKs morning-after pill retail sale

August 24 2006

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Over-the-counter sale of Plan B, or the morning-after contraceptive pill was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Thursday.

In a statement, the agency said it will be available only to women 18 years old or older, and that a prescription would still be required for anyone younger.

Plan B contains the same ingredient used in prescription birth control pills, but a higher dose and the product has a different dosing regimen, the statement said.

When used as directed, it effectively and safely prevents pregnancy, the FDA said.

The drug will be marketed by Duramed, a subsidiary of Barr Pharmaceuticals.

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Citation: FDA OKs morning-after pill retail sale (2006, August 24) retrieved 1 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2006-08-fda-oks-morning-after-pill-retail.html>

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