

New pill would eliminate menstruation

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A new birth control pill that stops menstruation completely is expected to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration next month.

Lybrel eliminates monthly mensuration, unlike other birth control pills that mimic the body's natural 28-day menstrual cycle or pills that allow four menstrual periods a year, The New York Times said Friday.

The drug's maker, Wyeth, said nearly two-thirds of women it surveyed expressed an interest in giving up their periods. Wyeth said it expects FDA approval in May.

The newspaper said studies have found no extra health risks associated with pills that stop menstruation. Some doctors, however, say there has not been enough research conducted on long-term effects.

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