

The Alberta College of Pharmacists -- safety concern regarding Angeliq®

Angeliq® is a relatively new menopausal hormone replacement therapy. It contains less estrogen than regular birth control pills, and therefore is definitely not indicated for contraception.

Unfortunately, Angeliq® is **packaged similarly** to 28-day packages of birth control pills, and contains similar hormones. At two different clinics in our community, physicians have mistakenly given Angeliq® samples to young women as birth control.

In both cases the women had taken Angeliq® for several months, and the problem was only identified when they brought in their new prescriptions for Angeliq®. According to the clinics, Angeliq® samples were stored in the same location as birth control pill samples. Both Bayer, the makers of Angeliq®, and the medical clinics have been identified of this packaging issue.

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