



Dear Health Care Professional,

Re: Information on Starting women on the following Bayer brand of products

Microgynon 30 ED

6 March 2013

Microgynon 50 ED

Bayer Australia Ltd

Levlén ED

Postal Address

Triquilar ED, Logynon ED

875 Pacific Highway

Diane-35 ED, Juliet-35 ED

Pymble, New South Wales 2073

Sydney, Australia

As a result of some information updated in the Product Information recently, Bayer Australia advises that, when starting patients on any of the above products, doctors and pharmacists should note changes to the Product Information in the section entitled "**How to start** (product name)" for starting instructions marked as underlined text below.

Tel 1800 673 270

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www.bayer.com.au

"How to start <Brand Name ED>

- **After a natural cycle**

Tablet-taking has to start on day 1 of the natural cycle (i.e. the first day of her menstrual bleeding). Additional non-hormonal contraceptive methods must be used for the next 14 days.

- **Changing from a combined hormonal contraceptive (combined oral contraceptive/ COC)**

The woman should start with <Brand Name ED> on the day after the last active tablet (the last tablet containing the active substances) of her previous COC.

- **Changing from a progestogen-only-method (minipill, injection, implant) or from a progestogen releasing intrauterine system (IUS)**

The woman may switch any day from the minipill (from an implant, or the IUS on the day of its removal, from an injectable when the next injection would be due), but in all of these cases should be advised to additionally use a barrier method for the first 14 days of tablet-taking.

- **Following first-trimester abortion**

The woman may start immediately. Additional non-hormonal contraceptive measures are necessary for the next 14 days.

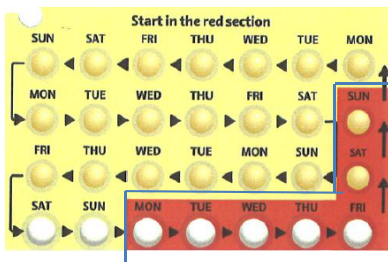
- **After childbirth or second-trimester abortion**

Women should be advised to start 21 to 28 days after delivery or second-trimester abortion. Additional non-hormonal contraceptive methods are necessary for the next 14 days. If intercourse has already occurred, pregnancy should be excluded before the actual start of COC use or the woman has to wait for her first menstrual period.

For breastfeeding women see 'Use in lactation'.

For Diane 35 ED only: Diane-35 ED should not be used in breastfeeding women. See PRECAUTIONS (Use in lactation)."

Please advise your patient to take the first tablet from the red area on the blister pack corresponding to the day of the week (see picture below).



RED AREA

Additionally, for Diane 35 ED and Juliet 35 ED please advise your patients STARTING either of these products to refer to the updated Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) instead of the product pack insert for instructions on "How to Start".

The revised Product Information and CMIs for these products can now be accessed from the TGA and Bayer Australia websites www.ebs.tga.gov.au and www.bayer.com.au respectively; and will be available through prescribing software following their next monthly update.

Please note that women already using any of these products do not need to take any action. The advice only applies to women starting the first cycle of any of these products.

For further information, or if you have any questions, please contact Bayer Australia Medical Information on 1800 673 270.

Dr Jan Twomey
 Medical Director Australia and New Zealand,
 Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals
 Bayer Australia Ltd