

# Drug prevents fetal implantation, Ewert says

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The liability scare resulted from a European case in the 1960s, he said, in which a sedative called Thalidomide led to birth defects in children born to mothers using the drug. In these cases, it was not uncommon to see babies born without arms and legs, he said.

Ewert said that although no "morning-after pills" have been approved by the FDA, Premarin was chosen by the health center because there are a "significant amount" of experts who are using it in the same way.

He said Premarin probably can not cause an abortion far into the first trimester, but taking the drug during early fetal development can cause fetal abnormality.

The female hormones in the drug can cause improper sexual development in the fetus if taken later in the first trimester. The hormones can cause a male fetus to develop female as well as male sexual organs, Ewert said.

These risks have led Crabb to require preg-

nancy tests for women who wish to take the drug, Crabb said. In some cases, women who wish to take the drug have unknowingly been pregnant for weeks due to previous intercourse, he said. Testing for pregnancy eliminates the risk of administering Premarin during the advanced stages of pregnancy, he said.

***"It's the moral implications that you do whatever you feel like doing and then just take a pill to cause the abortion."***

**—Ewert**

Despite these risks, no pregnancy test is required before administering the drug at the

health center, Ewert said. The decision to test a patient for pregnancy is left up to the individual physician based on information provided by the patient on her menstrual cycle, he said.

Health center patients also are required to sign a consent form that states the risks of taking Premarin during more advanced stages of pregnancy, he said. Many women do not take the pregnancy test at the health center because it is an additional expense, Ewert said.

Women who take Premarin usually are not prepared to use birth control before intercourse, Ewert said. Many times, birth control is against these women's religious beliefs, leading them to "go without," he said.

"The women who come in for the morning-after pill have a guilty conscience," Ewert said. "It's a moral inconsistency we have."

While the health center does not have any limit on how many times women can be prescribed Premarin, Ewert said he is reluctant to prescribe it more than twice because of the high hormone levels involved.

"It's the moral implications that you do whatever you feel like doing, and then just take a pill to cause the abortion," he said. "You're making it real easy."

Crabb said Premarin has only superficial similarities to the controversial French abortion-inducing pill, RU486.

While RU486 is capable of "wiping out" early implantation of the ovum in the uterus, Premarin can only prevent this implantation, he said.

Dr. David Grimes, a researcher in obstetrics and gynecology at Women's Hospital in Los Angeles, said comparing Premarin to RU486 is "like comparing rocket ships and apples." While Premarin is a natural estrogen supplement, RU486 is a synthetic anti-progesterone, he said.

The result of this difference is that Premarin is effective only within the first few days after conception, Grimes said. RU486, however, can produce a miscarriage several weeks into a pregnancy, he said.

**Class schedules of the 3 latest measles' victims**

Eng. Mechanics 223	8:30-9:45	TR	Bancroft 208
Elec. Eng. 211	8:30-9:20	MWF	Nebraska Hall 183 W
Physics 212	11:00-12:15	TR	Brace Lab 211
Ag. Eng. 225	14:00-14:50	TR	LW Chase Hall 113
Ag. Eng. 225 Lab	15:00-16:50	R	LW Chase Hall 113
Physics 212 Recl.	12:30-13:20	M	Brace Lab 301 W
Speech Com. 109	9:30-10:20	MWF	Burnett 322
Eng. Mechanics 223	13:30-14:20	MWF	Bancroft 208
Math 208	9:30-10:20	MTWF	Old Father 307
Physics 212	11:00-12:15	TR	Brace Lab 211
Physics 212 Lab	8:30-9:20	M	Brace Lab 305
Ag. Com. 200	14:30-15:20	MW	Nebraska Hall 106W
Statistics 223	13:30-14:30	F	Bancroft
Eng. Mechanics 111	8:30-9:20	MWF	Bancroft 302
Physics 211	12:30-13:45	TR	Brace 211
Physics 211	13:30-14:20	W	Brace Lab 301W
Physics 220	15:30-18:20	W	Furgason 317
Math 107	11:30-12:20	MWF	Hamilton 102
Math 107	11:30-12:20	TR	Bancroft 103

Source: University Health Center.

John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

## Preventive measures proposed

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home, they should see their doctor. If the doctor diagnoses the patient with measles, the doctor must report it to the health department. "Then we follow up on the report and suggest preventative measures"

to stop the disease from spreading, he said.

Borden said the department would employ the same measures taken by the university to prevent the spread of the epidemic, only on a smaller scale.

Ewert said one possible measles case diagnosed late Wednesday is still under examination.

## Six UNL administrators are honored for efforts in diversity

By Amie DeFrain  
Staff Reporter

Six University of Nebraska-Lincoln administrators were honored recently by the Afrikan People's Union for their efforts in advancing cultural diversity on campus.

Recognized for their work were James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs; Robert Furgason, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Brad Munn, affirmative action officer; Jimmi Smith, director of multicultural affairs; Vaughn Robertson, assistant director of student opportunities and services; and Paul Miles, assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs.

Terry Goods, former APU president, presented each of the recipients with a plaque during a meeting of the Big Eight Council on Black Student Government at the Nebraska Union.

Goods said that during his two-year term, he noticed that the six were "sensitive" and "aware" of the needs of minority students.

"They've shown presently and in the past a great commitment to cultural diversity," Goods said.

They also took an "extra step" toward increasing the enrollment of minority students at UNL, he said, recruiting more minority faculty, helping plan the Big Eight conference, creating more scholarships for minority students as well as working closely with APU.

Smith said he feels honored to be among those awarded.

"I would encourage other UNL officials -- be they black or non-African in their heritage -- to reach out to their students and help make UNL a

better place," Smith said.

Munn said the six men have contributed a lot of their time to the betterment of the university and all who attend.

"We are making sure that students of all colors and backgrounds are welcomed," Munn said.

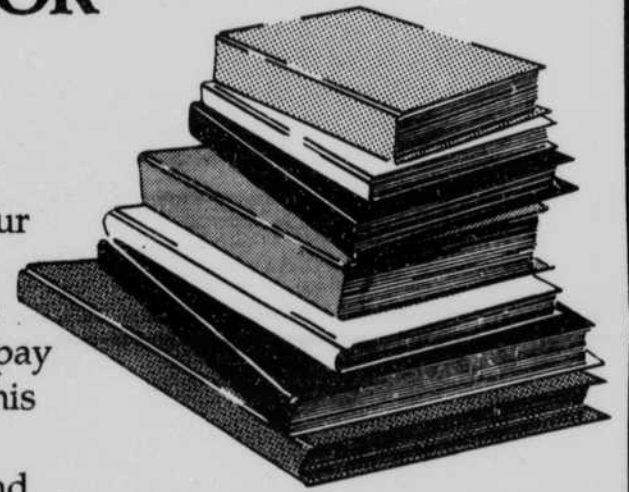
Munn said that winning the award wasn't what really mattered to him.

"If we make this a better place while we're here and for future generations, that's the real reward."

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