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## ADR

### Tip of the Month

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#### **Hormonal contraception and drug interactions**

Oral contraceptive pills are a common form of hormonal contraception for adolescents. Two types are available: a progestin-only method and a combined oral contraceptive (COC) method that includes a synthetic estrogen, like ethinyl estradiol, and a progestin, like norgestrel or levonorgestrel.

Physicians should be aware that:

- the efficacy of COCs is reduced when taken concurrently with some antiepileptics, St. John's Wort, medications to treat HIV, rifampin and griseofulvin, amongst others;
- there is no evidence to date that concurrent use of these medications reduces the efficacy of the progestin-only method.

***Please report all serious  
adverse drug reactions (ADRs).***