Side effects of The Pill

**Head/Brain**

- Cerebral hemorrhage (bleeding into the cranial cavity)
- Cerebral thrombosis (blood clot that drains blood from the brain)
- Melasma, which may persist (skin discoloration)
- Migraine
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Loss of scalp hair
- Acne

**Eyes**

- Retinal thrombosis
- Change in corneal curvature
- Intolerance to contact lenses
- Cataracts

**Heart/Blood**

- Thrombophlebitis (blood clots in the veins)
- Hypertension
- Mesenteric thrombosis (blood clot in the major veins that drain blood from the intestine)
- Hemorrhagic eruption (bleeding eruption)
- Arterial thromboembolism (blood clots in the heart)
- Pulmonary embolism
- Myocardial infarction (heart attack)
- Budd-Chiari Syndrome
- Hemolytic uremic syndrome (kidney failure and low platelet count in the blood)

**Mental**

- Mental depression
- Nervousness

**Whole Body**

- Changes in libido
- Edema
- Change in weight
- Rash
- Pre-menstrual syndrome
- Hirsutism (excessive hair growth in places where hair normally is minimal or absent)
- Erythema multiforme (allergic reaction)
- Erythema nodosum (skin inflammation)
- Porphyria (disease that can manifest itself as anything from acute mania, including hallucinations, to constipation and skin rashes)
- Bone loss
- Cancer (breast, uterine and vaginal)
- Stomach/Intestines
- Gallbladder disease (bile duct stones)
- Hepatic adenomas or benign liver tumors
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (such as abdominal cramps and bloating)
- Cholestatic jaundice (jaundice caused by thickened bile)
- Reduced tolerance to carbohydrates
- Changes in appetite
- Impaired renal function (impaired kidney function)
- Colitis (digestive disease characterized by inflammation of the colon)
- Hemolytic uremic syndrome (kidney failure and low platelet count in the blood)
- Impact on Reproductive Organs
Breakthrough bleeding
Spotting
Change in menstrual flow
Amenorrhea (absence of menstrual periods)
Temporary infertility after discontinuation of treatment
Breast changes: tenderness, enlargement, secretion
Change in cervical erosion and secretion
Decrease in lactation when given immediately postpartum
Breast changes: tenderness, enlargement, secretion
Decrease in lactation when given immediately postpartum
Vaginal candidiasis (yeast infection)
Cystitis-like syndrome (frequent urination, sometimes with a painful bladder)
Vaginitis (inflammation of the vaginal area, often associated with irritation, itching or infection)
Increased risk of sexually transmitted diseases
Cancer (breast, uterine and vaginal)
Endometriosis