

Mayo Clinic News Network Headline

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Blood Clots and Birth Control Pills

Video	Audio
Vivien Williams	Hi I'm Vivien Williams with a Mayo Clinic News Network Headline.
	Blood clots and birth control pills. A study in the journal BMJ - the Journal of the British Medical Association - suggests most new types of birth control pills are more likely to raise a woman's risk of blood clots than older formulations.
sot: John Heit, M.D. Mayo Clinic hematology expert	"The study measured the risk of blood clots in veins among women receiving different types of birth control pills, and showed that the later or newer or generation birth control pills actually have a higher risk of blood clots in veins compare to the second generation of birth control pills."
	Mayo Clinic Dr. John Heit says the problem is that if a blood clot develops in the leg, there's a chance it could travel to the lungs, which can be very serious. But even though there is increased risk with these new pills, it is still very low.
sot: John Heit, M.D. Mayo Clinic hematology expert	"If a woman has for example, a family history of venous thromboembolism or something that makes one more concerned that that woman is at higher risk, then preferably one would use a second generation rather than a third generation, of pills, recognizing the risk for both generations of pills is very low.
Vivien Williams	And that's today's Mayo Clinic News Network Headline, I'm Vivien Williams