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PHASE I CLINICAL TRIAL OF A WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION BIRTH CONTROL VACCINE

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Abstract

A birth control vaccine incorporating a synthetic peptide antigen representing the aminoacid sequence 109-145 of the C-terminal region of the $\hat{1}^2$ subunit of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG- $\hat{1}^2$) was submitted to a phase 1 clinical trial. Thirty surgically sterilised female volunteers, divided into five equal groups for different vaccine doses, received two intramuscular injections six weeks apart. Over a six-month follow-up there were no important adverse reactions, and potentially contraceptive levels of antibodies to hCG developed in all subjects. In the highest vaccine dose group, the results gave promise of a contraceptive effect of six months' duration.



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