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11 Surprising Possible Side Effects Of The Birth Control Pill That You Probably Didn't Know About

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The birth control pill is a life-saver for many women, but just like any other form of medication, it can come with some unexpected bodily changes. Although some women fear weight gain or a drop in libido, there are a number of other surprising side effects of birth control that you might not know about. It's important to note that everyone's body reacts differently than others, and sometimes different pills can have different effects on your body, but

knowing the potential accompanying symptoms to taking the pill can make you better aware of what to expect when taking birth control.

"Many women are not aware of these side effects because OBGYNs are forced to see patients so quickly," says Brian A. Levine, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.O.G. in a phone interview. "Many people don't have the time to sit down with their doctor to go over key stuff. They need to see a board certified OBGYN who is aware of this information, but sometimes it's really hard to find the time to do this and go over it."

Not all side effects of the birth control pill are negative, but some of them may seem unexpected. Here are 11 surprising side effects of taking the birth control pill that you might not know about.

4. Clear Skin

"For most women, their skin looks beautiful on the pill," says **Dr. Tina Koopersmith**, founder of **West Coast Women's Reproductive Center** over email. "Acne can clear up, and those excess chin hairs or mustache hairs may stop growing. This is because the pill lowers the levels of testosterone produced."

10. Bigger Breasts

"Some women notice their breasts are larger while on the Pill, sometimes a whole cup size larger," says Koopersmith. "This may be from the hormones affecting proliferation in the breast tissue or from some water retention."

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