**Pharmacists to start prescribing abortifacient “contraceptives” at Idaho State pharmacy**

**Special to PharmFacts E-News**

Idaho State University, based in Pocatello, ID, announced that it is beginning a program on the main campus Bengal Pharmacy of pharmacists prescribing and dispensing abortifacients, many mislabeled as “contraceptives” without medical supervision.

Former ISU resident Kori Wittrock, PharmD, developed the program “...to help decrease ...barriers and get women the health care [sic] they need.”

Supported by Interim Dean Chris Owens, the only pharmacy school in ID said “It is simply a way to increase access to a critical women’s health care [sic] need for those who desire it...”

Blood pressure checks at the pharmacy before prescribing are the only patient medical requirement included with this agreement approved by the Idaho state board of pharmacy. After a questionnaire and if there are no contraindications, an Rx for an abortifacient can be written at that intervention session.

Listed so-called “contracepives which have an abortifacient mechanism of action include: the Pill, progestin-only pills, vaginal rings, transdermal patches, medroxyprogesterone injections [Depo Provera] and so-called emergency “contraception” such as Plan B, its generics and ella, a chemical cousin of the French abortion pill mifepristone.

No indication was given if pharmacists with a conscience would be allowed to invoke their rights of conscience to NOT be involved with drugs and devices that have known abortifacient MOAs.

This despite the readily availability of these products via public assistance programs, clinics, emergency rooms, medical offices and even OTC versions of Plan B and its generics.

No cost estimates were provide by the announcement by the ISU college of pharmacy in an article in Idaho State University College of Pharmacy Bulletin at the end of 2018.

The ISU Bengal Pharmacy is located at the ISU Health Center, 990 S 8th Ave, Pocatello, ID 83209, phone [208-282-3407](https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1&q=Bengal+Pharmacy+Pocatello,+ID+83209&ludocid=1946848958256746214&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjHrtS_g-HfAhUjyoMKHXDfD7sQoAIwAHoECAQQBg&biw=1094&bih=566), <https://www.isu.edu/healthcenter/pharmacy>. Its hours are Mon through Fri 9am to 6pm MST.