

SELECTIVE COX-2 INHIBITORS *VERSUS* ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES IN THE TREATMENT OF PRIMARY DYSMENORRHEA

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Primary dysmenorrhea is a common condition affecting a lot of adolescent girls, and is the leading cause of recurrent short-term school or work absenteeism among female adolescents and young adults.

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs are the initial therapy of choice in patients with presumptive primary dysmenorrhea. Studies have shown that the selective COX-2 inhibitors have a potent tocolytic effect, and found the specific COX-2 inhibitors effective in treatment of primary dysmenorrhea in women ≥ 18 years old.

Oral contraceptives may also be considered as an alternative treatment option in primary dysmenorrhea in women requesting hormonal contraception.
