

# Health Bulletin



## Clinical Researchers Seeking Volunteers

(NAPSA)—Many women suffering from a severe disorder may be eligible to participate in a research study to evaluate an investigational drug intended to lessen the symptoms of this condition.

For up to 75 percent of American women, depressed mood, irritability, breast tenderness and bloating are a regular part of the menstrual cycle—an occurrence commonly known as premenstrual syndrome (PMS).

Roughly three million women in the U.S. have PMS so severe that it can be diagnosed as premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD), when symptoms gradually worsen over time until they interfere with a woman's life and her personal relationships.

Researchers believe PMDD is likely brought about by a response to hormonal changes related to the menstrual cycle. "Women with PMDD often learn to compensate for their symptoms by scheduling important events during a time when they are not likely to be suffering from the symptoms, and isolating themselves during their most debilitat-

ing days," said Dr. Steven Drosman, one of the investigators in this research study. "Women should not feel as if they need to rearrange their lives because of this condition, and we hope this research study will help us find a way to treat the symptoms."

Researchers from more than 50 medical facilities across the country are now enrolling volunteers to participate in a research trial sponsored by Berlex Laboratories, Inc. Volunteers who experience the symptoms of PMDD—such as mood swings, severe anxiety and tension, which cause impaired functioning in day-to-day activities—and who are 18 through 40 years of age, are currently being screened for participation. Qualified participants will receive study-related medication and health assessment at no cost and may be compensated for their time and travel expenses.

Women interested in this research trial can visit [www.pmdt.com](http://www.pmdt.com) to learn about this condition, find out if they qualify to participate and whether there is a nearby research facility.