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Vagina rebranded as ‘bonus hole’ by cervical cancer charity

Story by Alex Barton • Sunday



Woman's body

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A charity which advises medics to refer to a vagina as a “bonus hole” to avoid upsetting transgender men has been accused of [dehumanising women](#).

Jo’s Cervical Cancer Trust offers a guide on its website detailing [the appropriate language](#) healthcare professionals should use when dealing with trans men.

“Bonus hole” and “front hole” are deemed acceptable alternatives to vagina, a word which could “cause someone to feel hurt or distressed”, it states.

The advice features on a section of Jo’s website under the header “Language to use when supporting trans men and/or non-binary people”.

The glossary was created in partnership with the LGBT Foundation.

Bev Jackson, a women’s rights activist and co-founder of LGB Alliance, said: “Disgusting language like this which intentionally dehumanises women must be rejected by all reasonable people.

“The fact is, [women have vaginas](#). It’s appalling that anyone would think that reality is offensive. If you think it’s offensive, then that’s your problem.

“There is no reason for the rest of society to adapt our language so as not to offend people who are offended by reality.

“Some people wish to ignore the very clear biological differences between men and women.”

‘Such guidance leading to more confused young people’

Caroline Fiske, founder of Conservatives for Women, told The Mail on Sunday such guidance was leading to "more confused young people" that are increasingly becoming "alienated from their own physicality and sex".

Ms Fisk added: "If a woman is so triggered by the word vagina, I should imagine she needs psychiatric help rather than the world bent to her never-ending list of irrational demands."

Jo's was set up by businessman James Maxwell in memory of his wife, Jo, who died at 40 from cervical cancer in 1999.

It is the only UK charity dedicated to women affected by [cervical cancer](#).

A Jo's spokesman said the information on its website was targeted at health professionals supporting trans patients when attending cervical screenings.

A spokesman said: "The page includes a glossary of terms they may hear from their patients and was developed with expert organisations who work with the LGBT community.

"The page is not promoting the use of these phrases with all women, it is [a list of phrases that nurses may hear some patients prefer](#).

"Our mission at Jo's is to prevent as many cervical cancers as possible, and a big part of that is increasing uptake of cervical screening.


"Women are our main audience at Jo's. However, some trans men and/or non-binary people have cervixes and to reduce as many cervical cancers as possible it is important that we also provide information for this group and the health professionals who support them."

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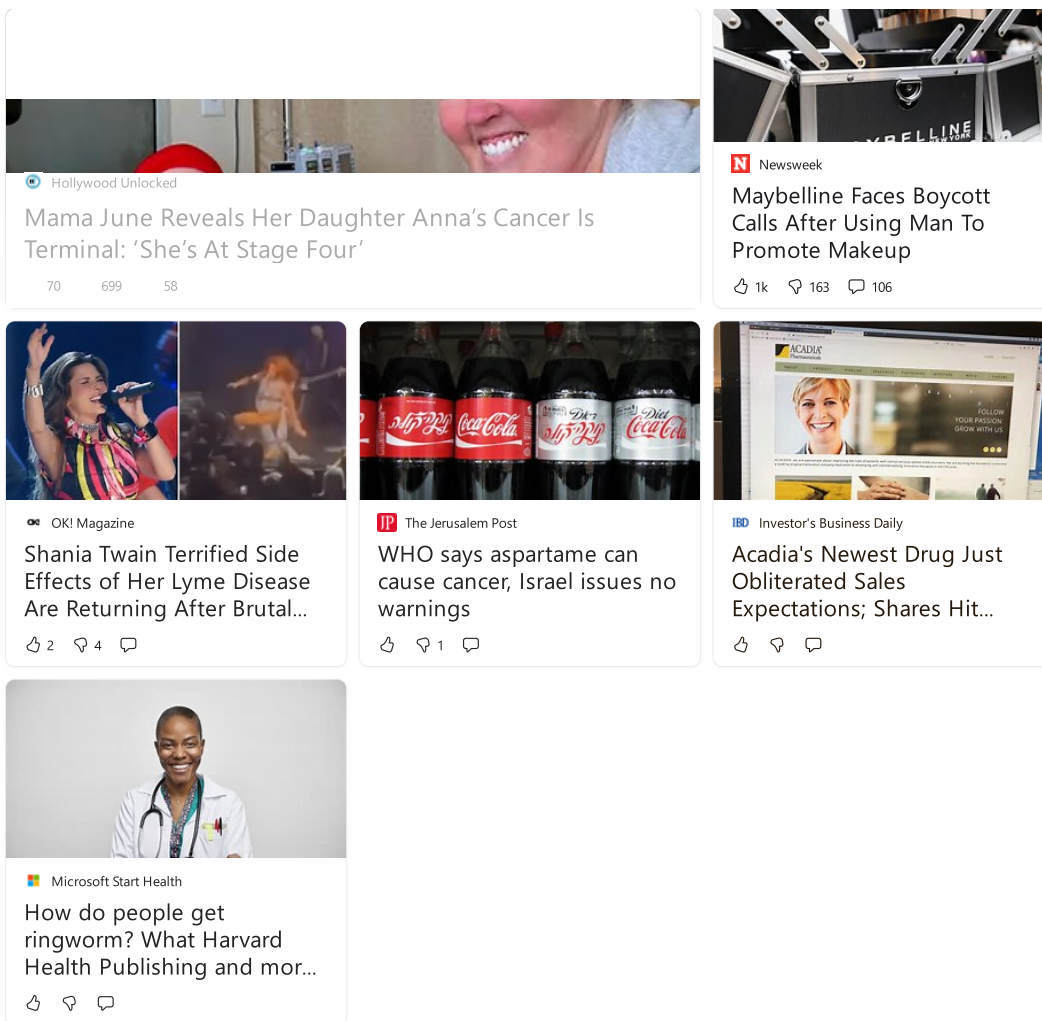


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Story by Rachel Gutman-Wei • 1h ago



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The FDA announced yesterday that it had for the first time approved a daily birth-control pill for over-the-counter sales. That's a big change; once the product, called Opill, is on the market—which may be as soon as early 2024—Americans will be able to buy daily hormonal birth control without a prescription. That's historic news, but hidden underneath it is another set of firsts: In the coming months, Americans will also be able to grab an over-the-

counter treatment for their heavy periods, cramps, headaches, and even migraines; they'll have prescription-free access to a drug for endometriosis and polycystic ovary syndrome; and they'll be able to buy a medication that can mitigate the symptoms of menopause. It's all in the same, progestin-based pill.

The FDA's approval [only covers](#) Opill's use as a form of birth control, but doctors have been prescribing pills that contain progestin for noncontraceptive needs for years. For the most part, the intervention works much better when the pills include both progestin and estrogen. Adding that second hormone to the mix amplifies all of progestin's beneficial effects, plus helps control hormonal acne. It also leaves more wiggle room in terms of timing: Progestin-only pills—sometimes called a minipill—have a much shorter half-life in the body, so if you

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