



## Case Study - Ovulation interaction

Veeda has always specialized in female studies and in particular in the conduct of ovulation interaction studies. These studies are useful for assessing the effect of a test drug on ovulation but also for assessing the efficacy of drugs designed to inhibit ovulation. This requires a large cohort of ovulating but sterile women who are willing to keep menstrual diaries. Only women with highly predictable and regular cycles may be used. Ovulation is usually identified by urinary hormone excretion and the usual dipstick tests available in most pharmacists but it is confirmed by transvaginal/abdominal ultrasound. The principle of the study is quite simple. After 2 cycles of observed normal ovulation, the women are challenged in the third cycle with the test agent or placebo starting from the first day of the menstrual period of that cycle. The presence of ovulation after the challenge is then confirmed. It is usual to monitor for ovulation for one additional cycle after withdrawal of the drug or placebo. The importance of this additional monitoring was shown in an interesting case of an LTD4 antagonist where we found that inhibition of ovulation occurred in the first post-dosing cycle, not in the dosing cycle.