



ASSOCIATION CATHOLIQUES
CANADIENNE DE LA SANTÉ

CATHOLIC HEALTH
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NEWS RELEASE

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CHAC Concerned about Clinical Trials of Abortion Pill RU-486

OTTAWA - Richard Haughian, D.Th., President of the Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC), recently wrote to the Honourable Allan Rock, Minister of Health, expressing the concerns of the CHAC Board of Directors about the announcement that Health Canada has approved clinical trials of the abortion pill RU-486.

“If approved,” Haughian states, “there will certainly be an increase in the overall number of abortions in Canada.” The letter to Rock points out that Canada continues to be the only industrialized nation that has no legislation to protect the rights of the unborn. Abortion is always regrettable. It terminates the pregnancy, shows a disregard for the underlying needs of pregnant women and does not address the injustices that have made so many pregnancies unwanted in the first place. Abortion masks those hardships and distracts our attention from the root causes which are social, economic and attitudinal.

The CHAC is also concerned that the approval of RU-486 could have serious health risks for woman. “It is our understanding,” Haughian writes, “that this pill can have significant complications for the pregnant mother. It is not simple to use, is expensive and requires careful monitoring.”

“The approval of clinical trials will not deal with the root causes of abortion,” the letter concludes, “nor will it protect the rights of those who cannot protect themselves.”

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