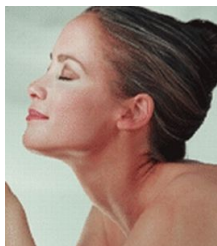


30 August 2006

By: Alexandra Lupu, Health News Editor



## **"Forever Young" Drug Based on the Human Growth Hormone**

*The medicine can reverse aging effects by making individuals look younger and enhancing their libido, wonder drug parent claims*

Jeya Prakash, a plastic surgeon in the UK claims he has discovered the drug that prevents aging and makes everyone "look years younger." Claiming that model Jordan herself has been one of his patients, the doctor aged 55 explained that the wonder drug based on the human growth hormone (HGH) made his wife look younger enough to be mistaken for his daughter and has given him a great libido. Mr. And Mrs. Prakash have been taking the medicine which reverses effects of aging for 18 months and they state they feel excellent and experienced no side effects. Referring to the effects the medical treatment had on his wife, Dr. Prakash said: "People are convinced I've given her surgery but she's had only HGH. We were having our passports renewed and an official thought she was my daughter. I wasn't sure whether to be annoyed or delighted." The HGH medicine is usually used by doctors to treat dwarfism. However, it seems that using the medical method in order to keep your youth has been very popular among US population, soaring to £400 million a year. Now, Dr. Prakash plans to set up a clinic where he can administer the drug. The administration of the drug is made by injecting it into patients' bodies. The drug has not been officially green lighted, but it can be used by people both in US and UK without the governmental approval. However, people who buy it "off license" are assuming the risks on their own. Medical experts warn individuals who are so enthusiastic with the idea that they are going to look younger that the drug is not going to be approved by the officials in the near future. They also state that the side effects of the HGH drug should be considered by people so willing to have a sip from the "forever young potion". Possible long-term use of the HGH medication may cause side effects such as: fluid retention, ankle swelling, pains in the muscles and joints, headaches, increased pressure in the brain, acromegaly condition, diabetes, heart failure, under activity of the thyroid gland etc. Also, if the medicine is taken by an individual suffering from cancer, it may cause the severe condition to accelerate aggressively and dramatically. Douglas McGeorge, president of the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, stated for Daily Mail: "The product is not licensed for use in this way. If doctors are daft enough to inject themselves with it, that is their problem but if they are giving it to others they need to explain it very carefully to patients that they are using it off license. He is obviously experimenting with it and it should be used very carefully and under controlled circumstances so the effects can be monitored." However, Dr. Prakash defended himself and his wonder drug by saying: "If you read the literature, you see the risk is tiny and typically associated with too-high doses of the hormone. Taken in low doses, research shows that human growth hormone is as safe as vitamin C."