

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Djerassi, Carl

1923 -

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1945

PLACE: Wisconsin

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Wilds

inventor of the first oral contraceptive agent (norethisterone), commonly known as "the pill"; co-inventor of tripelenamine (Pyribenzamine), one of the first clinically effective antihistamines used in medicine; determined the structures of seventy pentacyclic triterpenoids and alkaloids from the giant cacti and various South American plants, as well as that of cafestol, from coffee; investigated erythromycin, mystatis, methymycin, and neomethymycin, and established the first total structure of a macrolide; systemized studies of optical rotatory dispersion, leading to the use of this technique and circular dichroism in organic chemistry.

1. Personal communication confirmed research advisor (8Jul93).
2. Seymour, R. B.; Fisher, C. H. *Profiles of Eminent American Chemists*; Litarran Enterprises Pty. Ltd.: 1988; p110-114.