POLLUTION WL 91 WL 91 2% Diltiazem Norfluoxetine Diphenhydramine Carbamazepine Antihypertensive Antidepressant by-product Antihistamine Antiseizure (1.4 nanograms/gram) (2.3 nanograms/gram) (0.13 nanograms per (3.2 nanograms/gram) gram of fish fillet tested) Carbamazepine Fish Pharm These pills represent the relative amounts of four pharmaceutical drugs found in fish pulled from Chicago's North Shore Channel and tested by Baylor scientists. The traditional foe of water quality is waste from factories and farms, but now environmental regulators are eyeing a new pollution source: our medicine chests. Fish caught downstream from sewage treatment plants in five U.S. cities contained traces

of pharmaceuticals and toiletries, Baylor University researchers found in a recent study. You'd have to eat tons of fish for such small concentrations to affect human health, but the products

could pose a threat to marine life. To assess the risk, the EPA has expanded monitoring to 150 sites, with results due in 2011.

*PERCENTAGES EXCEED 100 BECAUSE OF ROUNDING.
BLUE ANTIHISTAMINE PILLS (TOP) ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PERCENTAGES.
ART: OLIVER UBERTI, NG STAFF. PHOTO: REBECCA HALE, NG STAFF.
SOURCE: ALEJANDRO RAMIREZ, BAYLOR UNIVERSITY