

Mr. QUIE. Mr. Chairman, I would suggest we meet in the morning and get Sargent Shriver.

Chairman PERKINS. He will be right back.

Mr. QUIE. How many of the health centers have the patients who go to a retail outlet and how many provide the services free in the health center?

Dr. ENGLISH. I could check that out to be absolutely sure, Mr. Congressman, but all of the Centers functioning now provide drugs at the Center at the time of treatment.

Mr. QUIE. So there are not any where you use the title 19 system of social security for the acquisition of drugs.

Dr. ENGLISH. In all of the Centers, would you ask the grantee to be asked that all Federal funds are incorporated for services even including title 19? They would be reimbursable for all services under title 19, including drugs.

Mr. QUIE. So they would secure their drugs for the Center, and then the Center would be reimbursed?

Dr. ENGLISH. That would be one possible arrangement by which it could happen.

Mr. QUIE. That is the arrangement.

Dr. ENGLISH. Yes; that would be the plan of the program in that area in most of the Centers functioning now.

Mr. QUIE. Do you have figures on the number of people who do receive funds under title 19, and those who are not eligible, sir?

Dr. ENGLISH. We could submit that to you for the record. We could tell you that Centers are receiving reimbursement from title 19, yes, sir.

Mr. QUIE. How does the income requirement for the non-title-19 patients compare with the earnings of the title 19—

Dr. ENGLISH. In many States that have implemented title 19, so far just people who were on various kinds of the categorical assistance have been switched to title 19. There are many other indigent people who require health services that would not yet be covered yet to the extent to which the State has implemented title 19, so if they met the poverty criteria in that community, they would be eligible for the services, and that would vary greatly in the various parts of the country.

Mr. QUIE. What is the availability of free drugs in the health centers?

Dr. ENGLISH. If they qualify for general medical care from the Center, they would also qualify for all the range of services there, including the drugs.

Mr. QUIE. I understand in some of the Centers you do not limit them to income but rather limit them to the area in which they live, and they can get free medical benefits—

Dr. ENGLISH. Well, the area in which the free programs are underway have such high concentrations of poverty that nearly all the people there would qualify for the services by the poverty criteria.

In our guidelines if 80 percent would be eligible under the poverty indices, the only question for eligibility is: Are you from the neighborhood?

Mr. QUIE. What has happened to the drugstores that have been in operation in those neighborhoods which have a center at the present time?