

Dr. PALUMBO. Pat Palumbo, Mayo Clinic. [The statements and observations made in this testimony are my own and do not necessarily represent official policy of the Mayo Institution.]

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, gentlemen, for taking the time from your busy work to come here and testify today.

Now, if each of you, when you speak, would pull the microphone up closely and speak directly into it, we shall be able to hear you.

Go ahead, Dr. White.

STATEMENT OF COLIN WHITE, M.D., PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH, YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Dr. WHITE. Senator Nelson, I am the chairman of a committee which was appointed by the Biometric Society and funded by the National Institute of Health to carry out the following mission: One, to make an in-depth assessment of the scientific quality of the UGDP study and in particular of the biometric aspects of the design, conduct, and analysis of the trial; two, to make a similar assessment of other controlled trials of oral hypoglycemic agents.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you identify the Biometric Society in at least a brief description so that the record will be clear on that.¹

Dr. WHITE. The Biometric Society is an international society of people who are interested in the application of statistical data to biological problems.

The CHAIRMAN. Who are the members? That is, what is the eligibility of your membership?

Dr. WHITE. Membership is attained by application and the committee decides the qualifications of those who wish to join. In general, membership is governed by interest in the work of the society.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any special required scientific qualifications?

Dr. WHITE. I think an expression of interest is all that is necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. Is this an international society?

Dr. WHITE. It is.

The CHAIRMAN. And are you president of this society?

Dr. WHITE. No, I am not. I am chairman of the committee that was appointed by the society for this particular purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. And the society selected the members of the committee of which you are chairman for the purpose of evaluating the UGDP study?

Dr. WHITE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Go ahead, doctor.

Dr. WHITE. The committee consisted of six members: John P. Gilbert, Harvard University; Paul Meier, University of Chicago; Chris L. Rumke, Free University, Amsterdam; Rodolfo Saracci, Pisa, Italy; Marvin Zelen, State University of New York at Buffalo; Colin White, Yale University.

¹ See Biometric Society study, page 13337.