

13518 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

In considering the use of concomitant therapy, it should be noted that both phenformin and a sulfonylurea drug (tolbutamide) have been reported to be associated with increased cardiovascular mortality; see WARNINGS. Thus the use of phenformin in association with a sulfonylurea may carry a greater risk than the use of phenformin alone.

If a judgment is made that phenformin and a sulfonylurea are to be used together in a particular patient, it should be established that the patient is responsive to both drugs. This may be accomplished either by a trial of each drug separately or by adding the second drug and then tapering the dosage of the first, observing for diminished control of blood glucose. Once the need for both drugs is established, the desired control of blood sugar may be obtained by adjusting the dose of either drug. The possibility of hypoglycemia should be anticipated, and appropriate precautions taken. See package insert for the appropriate sulfonylurea for CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.