

13632 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

In the conclusions of the UGDP group there is a brief warning against extrapolation of UGDP findings to other dosages and other types of patients.

One could never judge from the press releases, the news stories, the public actions of government officials that both reports related to a hypothetical test situation and not to the actual practice of oral hypoglycemic treatment. Under certain circumstances, the Biometric report finds that "There remains the question whether tolbutamide, although ineffective in a fixed dose regimen, might be an effective therapy as ordinarily used." I am sorry that I cannot supply the page citation but will do so when it is published next month.

In their analysis, the Biometric Report apparently accepts the study of Keen et al as statistically valid and attention is drawn to the fact that those authors concluded "a significant degree of primary protection against cardiovascular events can be conferred by tolbutamide in moderately and mildly hyperglycemic people."

In concluding their analysis of the Paasikivi study they state, "This study neither confirms nor contradicts the UGDP findings as the population under consideration was not