regarding comparability of the treatment groups and because treatments are not randomly allocated. Thus, although the retrospective studies of Palumbo and Kanarek may or may not, when fully analyzed, add support to the UGDP findings, the prospective UGDP study must be accorded far greater weight and is alone a sufficient basis for our proposed actions.

4. Drs. Tan, Bradley, Gleason, and Soeldner reported on the long-term (4 years) effects of hypoglycemic agents on the oral glucose tolerance test and blood lipids in chemical diabetics at the annual meeting of the American Diabetes Association in 1973 (abstract in Diabetes 22 (suppl 1): 290, 1973). The investigators' abstract indicated that there was no significant difference in the improvement in glucose tolerance in patients receiving oral hypoglycemic agents compared with patients receiving placebo. The full report of this study has not yet been published, but it appears that the investigators studied glucose tolerance on the day following discontinuation of the drugs. Their findings thus would indicate only that the oral agents do not lead to improved glucose tolerance in the absence of continued use of the drug.

5. Dr. R. W. Wissler, et al., in an FDA-supported study, examined the chronic effects of tolbutamide in the rhesus monkey. He found that coronary artery lesions were almost two times more frequent and three times more severe in the tolbutamide-treated animals than