

I think you have to look at the risk/benefit ratio.

I think the risk/benefit ratio to the use of amphetamines as appetite suppressants is very, very unfavorable.

Senator NELSON. I will ask the panel to address that question when we conclude the testimony.

Dr. NORA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

That concludes my prepared testimony.

Senator NELSON. Our next witness will be Dr. Thaddeus Prout, associate professor of medicine, Johns Hopkins University and chief of medicine, Greater Baltimore Medical Center, Baltimore, Md.

Dr. Prout, you may proceed.

STATEMENT OF THADDEUS E. PROUT, M.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, AND CHIEF OF MEDICINE, GREATER BALTIMORE MEDICAL CENTER, BALTIMORE, MD.

Dr. PROUT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the opportunity of being here.

In order to save time since I know you have a tight schedule, I will place my prepared statement on file, restrict my comments to one or two areas of importance.

Senator NELSON. Your statement, Dr. Prout, will be printed in full in the record, and you may comment extemporaneously, or however you desire.¹

Dr. PROUT. Thank you, sir.

First, I place in the record the conclusions and the recommendations of the Committee for the Evaluation of Anorectic Drugs of the FDA, of which I was chairman.

The committee had recommended that all of the anorectic drugs with abuse potential be placed in schedule II of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Act.

Senator NELSON. You are talking about amphetamines that are already there. Are you also talking about the related drugs?

Dr. PROUT. All of these drugs were not there at that time, and we were addressing ourselves to those that were not. We found no reason to conclude that they should not be placed in schedule II also.

Senator NELSON. That was the recommendation?

Dr. PROUT. Yes. The study had been undertaken to study the possible benefits of these drugs in obesity.

Senator NELSON. Which committee is that?

Dr. PROUT. This was an ad hoc committee appointed by the FDA under my chairmanship.

Senator NELSON. When was that recommendation made?

Dr. PROUT. In the fall of 1972.

Senator NELSON. They are all related?

Dr. PROUT. All had abuse-potential with one exception. But some of the comments this morning were pointing that our knowledge may change and fenfluramine which was believed to be an exception may now come under the same suspicion. At that time it was a new medication, and we did not have sufficient evidence to see that it might have an abuse potential as well.

¹ See prepared statement of Dr. Prout beginning at p. 14021.