

Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, now the Drug Enforcement Administration, although the FDA does have major statutory responsibilities in this area, too. Recommendations were forward to the BNDD and controls were imposed by that agency.

The results of our review, which ended in the latter half of 1972 with implementation of the decisions in early 1973, were as follows. First, a consistent policy and set of regulatory actions for all anorectics, based on a better characterization of their limited but unequivocal superiority to nondrug therapy and including recommendations that they be used only for short-term use as adjuncts to diet. Second, the elimination of a large number of combination drug products. Only two major combination products remain on the market, with litigation ongoing. The position of the manufacturer of these drugs, Smith, Kline and French, appears ethically and legally weakened by their failure to report important adverse information on the abuse potential of one of their products. Third, controls bearing on abuse potential were imposed on eight of these drugs for the first time, in a precedent setting class action. Fourth, all injectable anorectics were eliminated from the market.

You may wish to know what I think of these decisions