

14996 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

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A Bronx, New York physician maintaining a general practice stated that approximately four years ago when his brother, also a physician, passed away, he took over his weight control practice. In addition to his surgical practice, this doctor treats several hundred patients for weight control. He dispenses only Delcobese.

A review of 31 patients records at this physician's office indicated that most of his patients were treated for a period of more than 21 days, many for more than a year or two. For the most part, weight loss was quite questionable and gain in weight quite often resulted. The doctor stated that weight loss in many of his patients was difficult to achieve and amphetamine products were used in these instances to maintain weight once a loss was achieved.

A Flushing, New York physician stated that his average daily patient total is 150 persons and he dispenses amphetamines (Oby-Rex 5 mg., 10 mg., 15 mg., 20 mg. double-scored tablets) usually for a four (4) week period. This doctor further said that a patient may be taking amphetamines for a period of six months or even as long as a year on a continuous basis. Dispensing records for the month of December, 1975 were reviewed, during which time he dispensed 193,642 Oby-Rex tablets of various strength to patients during 3,197 separate visits.