

The promotion of another steroid hormone, Winthrop's Winstrol, offers even more striking inconsistencies. It is described to Latin American physicians as useful to increase weight, appetite, and strength. Such indications are not listed in PDR.

What is disclosed in PDR is the risk of such adverse reactions as stunting the growth of children, jaundice, interference with normal sexual development in children, and undesirable sexual changes in adults. Few of these are disclosed in Mexico and Brazil, still fewer in Central America, and none in Colombia and Ecuador.

Tranquilizers

Among the so-called major or antipsychotic tranquilizers included in our study were Sandoz's Mellaril and SKF's Stelazine. As with other drug classes, the approved indications for use are few in the United States and numerous in Latin America. Among the indications not approved in this country but listed for the Sandoz product in Central America is use of the drug for the treatment of children with behavioral disorders, hostility reactions, inability to adapt in school, insomnia, sleep walking, bed wetting, and nail biting. Many adverse reactions for Mellaril are disclosed in the United States, a few in Mexico, but none in Central America, Colombia, or Ecuador.

In the case of Stelazine, physicians in the United States are warned of the risk of the development of tardive dyskinesia--a disorder marked by involuntary movements of the lips, tongue,