

The labeling also warns of the link to the blood disease.

In Latin America in 1973, Silverman said, Parke-Davis was contradicting the advice it was giving in the United States by recommending Chloromycetin for disorders including tonsillitis, pharyngitis, eye and ear infections, abscesses and pneumonia. It did not disclose potential adverse reactions including the blood disease, nor give the medical conditions in which the drug should not be used.

By 1976, however, Parke-Davis was telling Central American physicians virtually the same thing it was telling physicians here, Silverman said.

He based his findings on the 1973 and 1976 entries in the Central American Spanish-language edition of the "Dictionary of Pharmaceutical Specialities."

This is a widely used reference volume that carries entries exactly as companies want them and it is distributed annually to every doctor in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, along with the Dominican Republic.

The 1976 edition was published Sept. 30, four months after the University of California Press published Silverman's book, "The Drugging of the Americas," and after the author testified before the Senate Select Small Business Monopoly Subcommittee.

The book and testimony were based on a first-hand survey by Silverman and two associates, who compared the labeling of 40 drugs provided by 23 international companies in the United States with the labeling they provided on the same products in 11 Latin American countries.

Although some companies defended the legality of overstating benefits and understating risks outside of the United States, Silverman testified that they were violating laws in four countries—Honduras, Panama, El Salvador and Colombia—that required full disclosure of hazards to physicians.

News reports on the Senate hearing were widely published in Latin America, Silverman said.

At the time, C. Joseph Stetler, president of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association in Washington, acknowledged "the importance of the

questions raised" in the hearing and said he intended to have them discussed by the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers.