

Dr. McCARRON. Yes, and we have restrictions on it. But it has therapeutic usefulness in certain conditions.

Mr. COUGHLIN. And you use it?

Dr. McCARRON. Oh, yes.

The corticosteroids for parenteral use we also specify by brand. This is mainly because the patients who need these drugs need them in a hurry for emergency conditions, and we want to use drugs that we have had experience with and know are effective, and we do not want any variation.

For cardiac glycosides we have six that we specify by brand. Tensilon, which is a drug used to make the muscles tense up again after a patient has received a muscle relaxant during surgery, is another very important drug that we buy only by brand name.

Some of our estrogenic substances were found not to be effective. Again, these are hormones, and we have a very difficult time with hormones. Even if they meet the standards that have been laid down, sometimes they don't have biological activity. So we have specified certain hormone substances by brand names.

We also had some problem with heparin. We bought generic heparin, and the patients were not anticoagulated as they had been before. There were variations in the dose required, so we standardized on the liquaemin heparin. There are several other drugs listed here, vasopressors, glaucoma agents, demercarium, and all of our spinal anaesthetic agents.

Mr. COUGHLIN. Will you make that list available for the record, with the permission of Senator Nelson?

Dr. McCARRON. Yes.⁵

Mr. COUGHLIN. One final question with respect to this general discussion.

Does your hospital accept any brand of oral antidiabetic product?

Dr. McCARRON. Any brands?

Mr. COUGHLIN. Any brand. On a generic basis, or do you purchase by brand name?

Dr. McCARRON. Well, we specify chlorpropamide tolbutamide acetohexamide, and as I understand it there is only one company that makes each of these drugs.

Mr. COUGHLIN. Thank you, Senator Nelson.

Senator NELSON. Did I understand that out of your formulary of some 550 drugs that less than 50 are ordered by brand name?

Dr. McCARRON. That is right. There are 43, and I have the list here.

Senator NELSON. Forty-three?

Dr. McCARRON. Yes.

Senator NELSON. And the other 500 are generic?

Dr. McCARRON. Generic.

Senator NELSON. Doctor, I want to thank you very much for your very valuable testimony. We are very pleased that you inserted an example from your formulary. This has been very instructive and useful for the committee.

We appreciate your taking the time to come here.

Dr. McCARRON. Thank you.

(The supplemental information submitted by Dr. McCarron follows:)

⁵ See p. 599.