

chase a second dose of 12 capsules while in Spain without further written prescription. This surely indicates either a lack of knowledge regarding the drug, or a complete lack of professional responsibility concerning it.

Senator Nelson, if my sister's death could save the life of another, our loss would be easier borne. We would like to make any further information we have regarding this case available to you if it would help your investigation. In the meantime, we wish the work of your Committee every success and hope this case may assist you in some way as you investigate the failure of drug companies to adequately warn the medical profession here and overseas, of dangerous drugs.

Sincerely yours,

NAME WITHHELD.

TEXAS, February 13, 1968.

HON. GAYLORD NELSON,
Democrat of Wisconsin,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I have just read an article by Drew Pearson in the Wall Street Journal on the subject of the danger of the drug Chloromycetin, and of your interest in protecting people from the drug.

I am sorry to say that I too am a victim of the drug, in the fact that my husband was given sixty (60) capsules of Chloromycetin in Sept. for a kidney infection, (which later was diagnosed as hepatitis) and is in a most critical condition, which has been diagnosed as "thrombocytopenia purpura" caused by the bone marrow's being destroyed from taking the drug.

I called the Doctor attending my husband, who had said that a medication had destroyed the bone marrow and asked him "what drug had destroyed the bone marrow, that I didn't want any given to me." He said "we think Chloromycetin did it. It is a good drug used for some things, but in some people it destroys the bone marrow the same way it has done in your husband." He did not say may have done but has done.

He has been in hospital since the 11th of November, living on blood transfusions. Some days as many as 4 pints of blood a day. I have no hopes of him ever getting well, but we have to keep giving him blood. One just can't say "let him die, it's just one more death caused from taking Chloromycetin."

I called the Doctor that gave him the drug and told him what the Doctors in Houston had told me. He said "we are well aware of the fact that it causes bone marrow depression. I had a patient to die from the same thing your husband has." I asked him if it were a child that I had heard of an 8 year old girl dying here from taking the drug and he said "no it was a young adult lady." And then he gave it to my husband!

I have heard of others dying from the drug, but the one the Doctor told me died I would take as a fact, not hear say. If you could see my husband, he is bleeding under the skin so he is spots all over his body and black & blue since he has no blood platelets to make blood coagulate. Of course he bleeds inside too, you would understand my concern about the drug and do all you could to keep others from dying or going through what we have been. My husband is 59 which in these days isn't old. So I think the drug is killing him.

I wrote Parke-Davis & Company, and Doctor Goddard in Washington the same thing I have written you. These are copies of the letters they wrote me. You can see that others will continue to die from Chloromycetin from what they wrote me.

_____ has 45,000 people here, so for two to die from one Doctor giving it is two too many. There are 50 or so Doctors here so no one knows how many others have died from the drug.

Can you advise me what procedures we should take to help right a wrong and be sure that others don't die or suffer the way we have suffered?

Thank you for any consideration you may give me.

Yours Truly,

NAME WITHHELD.

NEW JERSEY, February 12, 1968.

HON. GAYLORD NELSON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

SIR: I am writing to urge you to take the necessary steps to control chloromycetin because as Dr. Dameshek has said, according to the enclosed clipping, it is being used without the proper precautions.