

Dr. GODDARD. No, sir.

Mr. GORDON. You have no such authority?

Dr. GODDARD. No, sir.

Senator NELSON. The position I have been suggesting about requiring that administration be limited to hospitals only and the position you ultimately end up with are really very close together. Your position is that such a procedure is what ought to be followed but not required by law. The position of some of the experts who have testified is that this is what ought to be done, even if it does require enforcement by law. Is that the difference between the two?

Dr. GODDARD. Basically I would say the difference is—let me recast that in my words and see if we are in agreement.

Your experts have said even if the law has to be changed, it should be restricted to hospitals.

Senator NELSON. Some say that, yes.

Dr. GODDARD. Now, I submit to you that restriction to hospitals alone will not do the job. It has not so far. Approximately 2 million of the people a year receiving the drug are getting it in hospitals. Obviously additional steps have to be taken.

Senator NELSON. But you think it would be an improvement, or you do not think it should be recommended?

Dr. GODDARD. Labeling represents an improvement, by strongly suggesting only hospitalized patients should get it.

Now what I am trying to say is that in itself will not do the job. There are additional steps that have to be taken. I suggested you get the Joint Commission on Accreditation to testify as to the possibility of adding to their standards. I do not know what their reaction will be. I have not talked to Dr. Porterfield about this. I have talked to the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service as to what additional steps they might suggest, because they are dealing with problems of medical care. They have no suggestions.

Senator, believe me, we will consider carefully suggestions that would help diminish the excessive use of this drug. But, as you well know, we have authorities under which we operate quite properly. These authorities do not permit the policing of this situation in a way that would make effective reduction occur within a short period of time.

Senator NELSON. I am one of those that would be happy to give you more authority.

Go ahead, please.

Dr. GODDARD. I think, Senator, I have in effect summarized the rest of my statement—if I can just submit it for the record.

Senator NELSON. There have been so many interruptions during your presentation—we will print your statement in full at the conclusion of your testimony.

Mr. GORDON. Dr. Goddard, it seems incredible to me that the public, to such a large extent, is unprotected. What you really have told us here today, so far as I can see, is that the public has very little protection.

Dr. GODDARD. I do not believe that is so. I think the public in this country has a greater measure of protection than the public in most nations.