

And I am just curious to know when the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association is going to stop this nonsense, and, as Mr. Stevenson said one time, talk some sense to the American people. It gets a little worrisome spending time checking on the accuracy of PMA's statements. But this kind of statement gets circulated widely over the country, and the doctors read it, and the doctors say, it is true again, there is no generic equivalency, we have got another piece of proof. And probably by the expenditure of millions and millions of dollars they just brainwash the country with falsehoods.

And every time I catch them we are going to have a public hearing and expose them. If nobody else is going to do it, I am going to do it, because they are doing a disservice to the public health and the medical profession, and they are doing a disservice to the drug companies they represent, and they ought to be pulled up short on the halter when they do it.

And I am pleased to have this documentary evidence placed in the record. And I will insert the letter of Mr. Cohen as well as the response of Dr. Silverman.

(The information referred to follow :)

SEPTEMBER 9, 1968.

Hon. WILBUR COHEN,
Secretary, Health, Education, and Welfare,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: On August 5, 1968 the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association distributed a "Bibliography on Biopharmaceutics" accompanied by a press release, both of which are attached.¹

Since your Department's Task Force on Prescription Drugs has been concerned with the matter of therapeutic equivalency, I would appreciate your comments on the attached documents.

Kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

GAYLORD NELSON,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Monopoly.

NEWS RELEASE OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 5, 1968.—The scope and importance of the science of "biopharmaceutics" are detailed in an extensive bibliography just published by the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association.

"This unique publication refutes the astonishing myth that there are no significant differences among dosage forms of the same drug," C. Joseph Stetler, president of the association, said.

The bibliography contains abstracts and journal references on the influence of pharmaceutical formulation on the therapeutic activity of drugs. Listed are 501 citations. They establish a literature base in a field where, in a broad sense, some ten thousand articles are published annually.

The compilation is an outgrowth of testimony presented before the Monopoly Subcommittee of the Senate Small Business Committee. In these hearings some witnesses suggested that differences in formulation of drug products were negligible or of minor significance in their effect on patients.

"The bibliography lists well-designed clinical studies to show the opposite is true," Mr. Stetler said. "They describe clinically measurable differences among widely varying and widely used classes of drugs beyond those already documented in the hearings."

"Since different formulations of the same drug made by the same manufacturer may produce different results in patients, it is hardly surprising that the same drug made by more than one company may differ even more markedly," Mr. Stetler explained. "No two companies make a drug in exactly the same way.

¹ The "Bibliography on Biopharmaceutics" has been retained in committee files.