

4274 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

nature of this report and since it has not come to my attention before, I am writing to you for additional information.

Actually, we would expect just the opposite to occur. We know of a paper soon to be published showing some improvement in vision in patients with diabetes and hypercholesterolemia. Although these reports are preliminary they are most interesting and will be followed.

Thank you for bringing this to the attention of Mr. Junck. We would appreciate hearing from you if you have more information.

Cordially,

JOHN B. CHEWNING, M.D.

[Inter-Department Memo, Feb. 13, 1961]

To: Department of Medical Research.
From: Wm. J. Phelan, #48727, Houston, Texas.
Subject: MER/29.

Please find attached a brief case report on each of three patients referred to Herman J. Schultz, M.D., Dermatologist, by their internists when dermatitis developed while on MER/29 therapy.

To conserve time and space on the individual reports I hereby list the doctors involved and their addresses

Herman Glantzberg, M.D., Internist
703 Hermann Prof. Bldg., Ja 3-5129
Patient: 40 years, male, Prof., Univ. of Houston

Harry Leland Kaplan, M.D., Internist
6448 Fannin Street, Ja 6-2051
Patient: 69 years, male, retired

Alfons Salinger, M.D., Internist
2212 Calumet Street, Ja 3-4643
Patient: 50 years, male, dentist

Herman J. Schultz, M.D., Dermatologist
806 Hermann Prof. Bldg., Ja 8-1521
Patients: Three list all above.

All but Dr. Salinger practice practice in my territory. Dr. Kaplan and Dr. Glantzberg have had their office staffs telephone all large drug stores during the past three days the message: "Do not refill or fill any of their MER/29 prescriptions until further notice."

Today I visited the offices and talked to Dr. Schultz, Dr. Kaplan and Dr. Glantzberg. Each of these men are quiet, stable doctors who assured me that they are interested only in more information on the possible MER/29 side effects of dermatitis, falling hair, color change of hair and loss of libido, and not in scare talk of the product. During my talk with each man I reviewed, as on all details, the detail card and promotional literature listing of side effects (nausea, headache, dermatitis) which are rare and have usually been associated with higher dosages than those recommended.

It is my understanding that Mr. McMaster talked with Dr. Glantzberg and Dr. Salinger today and may visit Houston next week on this and other matters. Mr. Bristol has requested that I forward the attached information, and while keeping the Houston Group informed, to restate that our detailing instructions are exactly as they have been since the release of the product, with no more or no less emphasis on side effects.

Best regards,

BILL PHELAN.

[Inter-Department Memo, Feb. 13, 1961]

To: Department of Medical Research.
From: Wm. J. Phelan, #48727, Houston, Texas.
Subject: MER/29 Patient Report of Dr. Glantzberg.

1. Age—40, Sex—M, Prof. Univ of Houston
2. Diag. Prim:
 - Familial hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipemia
 - Xanthoma plaques
 - One coronary occlusion 7 years ago