

necessarily correlate with any change in the clinical state of these women regarding thyroid function and may reflect an increase in thyroxine binding protein similar to the increase known to occur after the administration of estrogens. Thyroid enlargement rarely occurs.

Diabetes. There is no direct evidence that Enovid alters the diabetic state. However, in a few instances some degree of difficulty in the management of diabetic patients has been reported in connection with Enovid therapy. It is possible that a change in insulin dosage may be required. For this reason diabetic patients should be closely observed while Enovid-E is being administered. They may be expected to return to their pretreatment manageability on discontinuance of the drug.

Liver Function. Patients with rheumatoid arthritis receiving very high doses of Enovid over a long period of time have been reported²⁹ to show an increased bromsulphalein retention. Inconsistent and irregular moderate bromsulphalein retention has also been reported³⁰ in women receiving lower doses of Enovid cyclically. However, preliminary investigations indicate²⁸ that this has not been a significant problem. Nevertheless, cholestatic jaundice has been reported in a few instances of women receiving Enovid, and Enovid will apparently induce the rare syndrome of familial jaundice of pregnancy. For this reason the administration of Enovid-E to women with liver or biliary tract disease or dysfunction or a history of such disease or of jaundice is contraindicated, unless the reason for such use in the opinion of the physician is overwhelming.

The status of the liver function of these women treated with Enovid-E must be followed closely.

Lactation. It has now been accepted that one of the gonadotropin hormones of the anterior pituitary gland (the luteotropic hormone, L.T.H.) is identical to the lactogenic hormone. Since a principal action of Enovid is the suppression of the gonadotropic hormones, it is likely that Enovid-E will suppress lactation if administered to a nursing mother. Suppression of