

If any irregular bleeding occurs a careful search for an organic lesion is indicated. Women on long-term medication should have at least annual or more frequent pelvic examinations.

*Alterations in Menstrual Flow.* The menstrual flow associated with Enovid-E therapy is usually typical of the individual woman although it may be scanty or, less commonly, more profuse. In uncommon instances possibly an endometrial cast may be produced.

*Amenorrhea (Missed Menstruation).* This is a phenomenon encountered occasionally in women when Enovid-E is prescribed cyclically. The term is used to describe an absence of menstrual flow during the periodic omission of Enovid-E to permit the woman to menstruate. In spite of the fact that no menstrual flow occurs in the missed or amenorrheic period, this phenomenon does not preclude ovulation during the following cycle. Sometimes ovulation may occur as early as nine or ten days after medication is so stopped. *Thus, it is most important to instruct the woman to take the Enovid-E tablets for another twenty days and to begin taking them again no later than one week after the last tablet in the previous cycle was taken.*

*Edema.* Sodium retention with edema may be encountered and usually is satisfactorily treated by salt restriction or controlled by the judicious use of a diuretic agent. For this reason, however, Enovid-E should be used with caution in patients with cardiac or renal disorders or hypertension.

*Skin Changes (manifestations).* The occurrence of chloasma has been reported by Satterthwaite<sup>24</sup> and others<sup>28</sup>. The degree of pigmentation varies widely and persists, usually at a stationary level, throughout the course of medication. On discontinuing medication the pigmentation usually disappears but, as in the postpartum patient, it may persist for varying lengths of time. An occasional woman may experience photosensitivity dermatitis or urticaria. Miscellaneous cutaneous conditions occurring during administration of Enovid have also been reported (erythema multiforme and nodosum, hemorrhagic eruption, lupus erythematosus and acne).