

Now, the first curve I am going to speak of, because I do not want the Senate subcommittee to be here all night, the first curve is a glucose tolerance curve in a young girl who has been on the oral contraceptive for 2 months, and you see that the dotted line on the left top part of the curve is much higher than the other two lines which represent control observations.

Both the glucose tolerance is impaired and the insulin secretion is higher on medication than off it. That is a classical abnormality which we find in as many as 15 percent of the users, and the young healthy users of this medication.

The second case is very similar, but it shows the more gradual return of the abnormal glucose tolerance to normal as the medication is discontinued first for 6 weeks, than for 3 months.

Then turning the page, to page 16, I want to show you the gradual development not of chemical diabetes, which is a symptomless complaint, but of actual diabetes in a user. The first curve, the first solid line shows the glucose tolerance before oral contraceptive medication, and the insulin values associated with it.

You see the impairment of glucose tolerance, and the change in the pattern of insulin secretion after 3 months of the drug's administration, and when you turn the page further, you find that after a year this patient has developed a substantial abnormality of glucose tolerance, and one which no doctor, no doctor whatever his inclinations about the pill might be, no doctor would look at this data and say these changes are harmless. Every doctor would say this patient must stop the medication, which is what we said, and you see the return of the glucose tolerance to normal within 3 months, within 2 months of stopping the medication.

But the point I am making is this: This woman was symptomless. What would have happened to her had we——

Senator NELSON. May I interrupt a moment, Doctor. There is a roll-call on the floor of the Senate. We will recess for 15 minutes.

(At this point in the hearing a short recess was taken.)

Senator NELSON. We will resume the hearings.

Dr. Wynn, we are sorry we had to interrupt you.

Will you proceed, please.

Dr. WYNN. Mr. Chairman, I was in the process of describing to you——

Senator NELSON. Would you talk a little louder.

Dr. WYNN. Yes. I was in the process of describing to you the changes observed in a young woman who developed quite a substantial alteration in glucose tolerance after a year of oral contraceptive medication such that it was mandatory for this medication to be withdrawn, and when it was withdrawn there was a return to normal metabolic function.

Now case 4 is——

Senator NELSON. May I ask if there is any medical evidence of physiologic damage to a person being exposed to a high-level glucose tolerance situation over a long period of time, Doctor?

Dr. WYNN. There is evidence, and there is also a certain amount of conflict of evidence, and I wonder, sir, if I could return to that very important and critical point later?