

Dr. WYNN. Well, all women are women. Do you mean by a different group of women a group of women in another country, or do you mean economic status, race? I am sorry, I want to be quite clear on the question.

Mr. DUFFY. Perhaps I should read this again. Is there anything in the way you select your patients that might prejudice the development of these abnormalities that you describe? In other words, is there a history of overweight?

Dr. WYNN. I have an idea of what you mean, a clearer idea of what you mean, and the answer is no. But I would like to refer you to our publications which I have submitted, in which we discuss subjects such as family history of diabetes, body weight, age. We have not looked at our data from the point of view of social-economic class or racial characteristics.

Mr. DUFFY. Doctor, the next question: Is it not correct that other investigators have found that many patients on the pill do not evidence these abnormalities you describe?

Dr. WYNN. Did you say many?

Mr. DUFFY. Many.

Dr. WYNN. A few investigators have found no abnormalities such as we have found. Some of the studies involve subjects as few as 15, taking the medication for a shorter period, as 10 days.

I have recently reviewed the data of all existing studies on metabolic effects, and this is covered in my publication No. 80, which is now in the press and will be available to the committee, but that precise question has been examined.

We look to see what some investigators published, data which did not seem to show much in the way of metabolic change, and when you excluded those studies which involve very small numbers and so on, the substantial opinion of all investigators is roughly the same, and this, as I say, was the conclusion reached by the subcommittee of the Food and Drug Administration.

Mr. DUFFY. The next question, Doctor, is during normal pregnancy certain hormones are present in elevated amounts but are biologically inactive. These hormones are also elevated by taking the pill. Are you sure that these hormones are not also biologically inactive?

Dr. WYNN. I can only say "Yes" to that, because you haven't specified which hormones are elevated during pregnancy or from taking the pill. If you want to go into it in greater detail, I shall be only too happy to do so.

Mr. DUFFY. There you have me at your advantage.

Dr. WYNN. I thought I might actually on that one. But to be quite fair, Mr. Duffy, I know very well what you mean.

Mr. DUFFY. You are most gracious.

Dr. WYNN. It is perfectly true that thyroid hormone is elevated. That is, the amount circulating in the plasma is elevated both in pregnancy and when people take the pill. It is perfectly true. And as far as we know, this does not mean anything much in relation to the biology of thyroid hormone excess. We don't have the exact answer to it, but we don't think it is very important.

Now in relation to the other hormone that you have in mind or your questioner had in mind, whoever he was, that is cortisol. Now, here I think our own data, which we presented in extenso, extensively, to the