

National Institutes of Health on Tuesday of this week, our own data show that here you do have a biological excess of cortisol activity in pregnancy probably, though that is not the subject of our study, but certainly in oral contraceptive usage.

Mr. DUFFY. Doctor, the next question is how much of your data comes from higher dose pills? I suppose here we are talking about the earlier 5 to 10 milligram estrogen pill versus today's 1 to 2 milligram estrogen pill, and maybe you would also care to comment about this new minipill that they talk about.

Dr. WYNN. I would love to. The question of the dosage has been looked at very carefully by us, and we had not found substantial or statistically significant difference between the high estrogen pill and the so-called low estrogen pill, the difference being roughly 50 micrograms of estrodial in the low estrogen pill and 100 in the high estrogen pill.

In our own data we have not found any difference, but I do know of a very elegant study carried out in Great Britain, the data of which was shown to me just before I left, which suggests strongly that after 3 to 5 years of use, women taking the high dose estrogenic pill have substantially higher lipids, cholestrol triglyceride values, than those taking the lower estrogen dosage, and I reported this with the permission of the author to the NIH people on Tuesday.

Now, in relation with the so-called minipill, the minipill unlike the miniskirt is not here to stay, because last week or so the minipill was withdrawn by the manufacturers.

Senator NELSON. May I ask this question: Your statement that you did not find any difference between the 50 microgram and the 100 microgram pill, that applied to thromboembolism?

Dr. WYNN. No, that applied just to metabolic changes. The British Committee on the Safety of Drugs had come to the conclusion that the higher dose estrogen pills are more dangerous from the point of thromboembolism.

Senator NELSON. You are not disagreeing with the conclusion reached?

Dr. WYNN. Yes.

Mr. DUFFY. Thank you.

Senator NELSON. Thank you very much, Dr. Wynn, for your most thoughtful testimony. We appreciate your taking the time to come over here today, and your patience in the way you have testified.

Dr. WYNN. Thank you.

Senator NELSON. Our next witness is Dr. J. W. Goldzieher, director, Division of Clinical Sciences, Southwest Foundation for Research and Education, San Antonio, Tex.

Dr. Goldzieher, we appreciate your patience in waiting. We appreciate your being willing to take the time to come here today and give us the benefit of your well-known expertise in this field.

You may present your statement however you desire, and as with all the other witnesses, you may elaborate in places and summarize in places, whatever you desire. The statement will be printed in full in the record.