

Could we get a response from HEW or NIH for protocols and an estimate of the cost and submit it to the committee?

Dr. CORFMAN. We would welcome such a request.

Senator NELSON. Well, I am sure that everybody on this committee would like to know what it would take, I am sure I would, and perhaps we can draft a letter, if that is the right approach, and send it to the appropriate place.

I realize that you are not expected to make the decision for all of NIH. I think we may do that.

Dr. SEIGEL. I think, Senator, it should be understood we make every effort to stay alert to the clinical problems as they emerge, and to identify individuals who can do something about these problems.

Senator NELSON. I understand that. All I am saying is we would like to have your best advice, and if it is a requirement of additional moneys for research and the amounts involved are quite modest in terms of some of the things we are doing, I am sure the Congress would consider this as important a health matter as any other single one that we can think of.

Dr. CORFMAN. Splendid. We would be very happy to respond.

Senator NELSON. All right, we will.

(The subsequent information was received and follows:)

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, D.C., February 2, 1970.

HON. ROBERT H. FINCH,
Secretary of HEW, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SECRETARY FINCH: This letter is in reference to our telephone conversation on Monday.

As I mentioned at that time, one thing that emerges rather clearly from the testimony on oral contraceptive drugs before our subcommittee is the urgent need for an expanded research effort, particularly in two fields:

- (1) clinical and laboratory studies of women on oral contraceptives, and
- (2) statistical and epidemiological studies to quantify the relationship

between the use of oral contraceptives and these effects.

Dr. Philip Corfman, Director of the Center for Population Research, appeared before the Subcommittee on January 23rd and described the research on these subjects now supported by the National Institutes of Health. It would be most helpful if the N.I.H. would outline and transmit to the subcommittee a description of the additional research that they believe is necessary to conduct at this time.

I have assumed it is appropriate to direct this letter to you, rather than to N.I.H.

With best regards,

GAYLORD NELSON,
U.S. Senator.

THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
Washington, March 5, 1970.

HON. GAYLORD NELSON,
*U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR NELSON: The attached report was prepared by scientists at the National Institutes of Health in response to your request of February 2 for a description of research needed to clarify issues which have been raised concerning the medical effects of oral contraceptives. The report describes research now underway in the United States and presents a plan for expansion of these programs in the next few years.