

Senator HATFIELD. So we really have to focus upon what we can draw as conclusions from your study and that which we cannot draw.

Dr. KANE. Right.

Senator HATFIELD. Let me ask about the time factor. We are told by many that there are certain effects that are going to appear in the first 30-day usage, but then some of these will level off at a certain point and reduce. What about the time factor in your study and its relevance to this matter of short-term and long-term use?

Dr. KANE. Well, again, with regard to the neurohormone studies, there was only 1 month and I think one can draw a 1 month conclusion there. With regard to the others, these were questionnaire types where people had been using the drugs for a certain time, 6 months, a year. So these were not acute changes. Almost all the studies reported, my own included, involved people who had been using the drugs for 6 months to 2 years. In other words, these were fairly chronic differences that they noticed in themselves.

Senator HATFIELD. In other words, those conclusions you draw from a 30-day study would not necessarily be the same conclusions you would draw from the same group of people perhaps over a 60-, 90-, or perhaps 120-day period or longer?

Dr. KANE. We simply do not know.

Senator HATFIELD. We should be careful in this committee, should we not, between drawing conclusions from short-term use and what might be long-term side effects and such?

Dr. KANE. I do not think there is any information on long-term side effects.

Senator HATFIELD. We should not apply the short-term to possible long-term, should we? We cannot ignore the time factor, can we?

Dr. KANE. No, I think it is an area for further research. This sort of thing, the fact that psychoses seem to occur at all, it seems to me, is something we ought to be concerned about. The question of how many in other words, I think we do not know the answer to the question, if a woman takes a given pill for 2 or 3 or 4 years, is she somewhat more at risk statistically to develop a psychosis at that time. We do not know the answer to that one.

Senator HATFIELD. Even for some of those who might develop this psychosis characteristic in the first 30 days, is there not a possibility that they might, too, level off and not have an intensity of such a thing after 30 days?

Dr. KANE. I would be unprepared to risk that. I think they should try something else.

Senator HATFIELD. Then turning it round, shall we assume that because they have such characteristics during the first 30 days, should we assume they will retain those over the longer period?

Dr. KANE. No, there would be every expectation that they would recover if you stopped the medicine.

Senator HATFIELD. How about if you continued to use it?

Dr. KANE. I know of no one who would suggest such a course.

Senator HATFIELD. In other words, there could be a differentiation drawn between those who use them for 30 days and others who use them for 60 days?

Dr. KANE. I don't think you will ever find out.