Animal studies in which certain susceptible strains and species are used and the dosage, excessive and continuous, cannot be transferred exactly to human expectancy. Nevertheless, a warning is there and a so-altered endocrine environment in human tissues might result in an abnormal expression or potentiation of growth.

Recommendations

- The more extensive use of dogs and nonhuman primates in the animal testing of these drugs.
- 2. To test the presently approved contraceptive pills, if this has not been done, for mammary effects in dogs.
- 3. Encourage research in long-term administration of estrogens and other sex hormones in low and intermediate doses to nonhuman primates.
- 4. Continue the study groups on contraceptive pills in order to obtain more long-term data.

- Assure that the patients in those study groups are regularly and adequately examined and tested and that abnormal findings are immediately reported.
- 5. Continue the warning that the contraceptive pills are contraindicated in the presence of genital or breast malignancy and to extend this contraindication to any suspicion of genital or breast malignancy.
- 6. To establish at least two long-term study groups: one on the contraceptive pills and at least one control group. The minimum number in each group should be 20,000 women and the term of study for each group no less than 10 years. These studies must be within a reasonably stable population and geographic area. These are the minimum number required to ascertain a 2x change of genital and breast cancer incidence rates with 5 percent acceptable risk rate.

Table I.—Cervical carcinoma—Initial screening 1

| | | Number of women | Number of cancers | Rate per thousand | In situ | Invasive cancers |
|--|------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|
| 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 12 11 14 8 15 13 | Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn | 139, 503 113, 758 108, 136 65, 163 48, 697 33, 746 24, 182 19, 462 17, 761 19, 192 8, 435 27, 226 2, 161 10, 197 322, 352 | 987 388 724 548 412 336 134 48 84 145 119 123 51 96 2, 156 | 7. 1 3. 4 6. 7 8. 4 8. 5 10. 0 5. 5 2. 5 4. 8 7. 6 14. 1 4. 5 23. 6 9. 4 6. 7 | 52 (5. 1) 1, 228 (3. 8) | 175 (1. 5) 331 (3. 1) 353 (5. 4) 122 (2. 5) 77 (2. 3) 83 (3. 4) 2 (0. 1) 28 (1. 6) 48 (2. 5) 52 (6. 2) 52 (1. 9) 26 (12. 0) 44 (4. 3) |

¹ Adapted from Day, E, table 4, p. 1193, Clini. Obst. and Gynec., 4: 1183-1198, 1961, with additions.