

total discharges that were medically reviewed.

The scope of the main study can and should include the opportunity for the use of epidemiologic methods to add to the knowledge of the natural history of thromboembolic disease, especially its "idiopathic" varieties; and, in so doing, to suggest direction for potentially fruitful research into

some of the many clouded aspects of this problem. The experience gained in a study so oriented can serve to good advantage not only the immediate problem but future investigations involving other drugs and the application of similar epidemiologic methods to other possible instances of drug reactions.