TABLE V.—COMPARABILITY OF PATIENTS WITH VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLISM AND CONTROLS

Attribute	Number of patients: Thrombo-embolism	Number of patients: Control	Attribute	Number of patients: Thrombo-embolism	Number of patients: Control
Country of origin:			Religion:		
United Kingdom	41	82	Church of England	35	70
Ireland	7	11	Nonconformist	5	14
Other European	3	9	Roman Catholic	13	27
West Indies	3	6	Other or none	5	5
Other	4	8			
Total	58	116	Total	58	116
Social class:			Interval since last delivery (completed months):		
No husband [1]	5	6	3–11	7	12
I–II	7	19	12–23	9	28
III	34	70	24–27	14	23
IV	10	18	48 or more	22	39
V	2	3	Not recorded	0	2
			Not applicable (nulliparae)	6	12
Total	58	116	Total	58	116

[1] Divorced, separated, or living as married.

TABLE VI.—HISTORY OF PREVIOUS VENOUS THROMBOSIS OR PULMONARY EMBOLISM IN AFFECTED AND CONTROL PATIENTS (PERCENTAGES SHOWN IN PARENTHESES)

Diagnostic group	Oral contraceptives	Number of patients with history of previous venous thromboembolic disease: Present	Absent	All women
Thromboembolism	Used	9 (35)	17 (65)	26 (100)
	Not used	12 (38)	20 (62)	32 (100)
	Total	21 (36)	37 (64)	58 (100)
Control	Used	2 (20)	8 (80)	10 (100)
	Not used	3 (3)	103 (97)	106 (100)
	Total	5 (4)	111 (96)	116 (100)

Comparison between frequency of previous attacks (all affected and control patients): $x^2=28.5$, $n=1$, $P<0.001$.
Comparison between frequency of use of oral contraceptives (affected and control patients without previous attacks): $x^2=27.0$, $n=1$, $P<0.001$.

Hospital records were too incomplete to be used as a source of information about physical measurement. The women were therefore asked about their height and weight at the time of the relevant hospital admission, and the stated weight was compared with the standard weight given by Billewicz, Kemsley, and Thomson (1962) for women of the same age and height. Table VII shows the mean difference between the stated and standard weights for the affected and control patients. The control women not using oral contraceptives were, on average, 3 lb. (1.4 kg) above the standard weight for their height and age, but with the use of oral contraceptives the difference increased to 7 lb. (3.2 kg.). Among the affected women who used oral contraceptives the difference was similar, but those women who were not using oral contraceptives weighed, on average, nearly 13 lb. (5.9 kg.) more than the standard. This large excess was due to the presence of 10 women (32% of the total) who weighed 28 lb. (12.7 kg.) or more above the standard. In each of the three other groups the proportion of such obese women was approximately 10%.

Table VIII shows that the affected patients were, on average, heavier smokers than the control patients. The difference, however, is statistically not quite significant, and it will be noted that the proportion of women who used oral contraceptives was greater for the affected patients than for the controls in each smoking category.