

itself to one subject at a time. It will not be a substitute for the Medical Letter.

Senator NELSON. On page 10, your last sentence is: "The Center has been exploring concurrently the potential for developing and testing other models suitable for pharmacy services and is giving attention to a model for a community drug formulary program."

What does that mean? Are you talking about a formulary that can be used at the local level?

Dr. STEINFELD. Yes, and to be used in a number of pharmacies in an individual community. The easier problem is to work it in individual institutions or groups of institutions such as the Public Health Service or VA hospitals. It would be more difficult when one moves out into a community.

Senator NELSON. That is what I am curious about. How will you do this? What are the mechanics for establishing the formulary? Who is going to use it?

Dr. STEINFELD. Well, I think since it is an R. & D. program, the questions that you raise are the ones that must be answered: Will there be resistance on the part of physicians? How will pharmacists react to it? And so forth.

Mr. Brands, can you amplify on this subject?

Mr. BRANDS. Yes, sir. There has been a study done, I believe, in Virginia. The Medical Society and the Pharmacy Association got together to see if they could work out a formulary; this would be a limited number of drugs, not a total formulary but a limited number of drugs that would be used in practice.

In Delaware they have done the same thing with a few drugs for generic prescribing. This is in Wilmington, Del., where the Medical Society and the Pharmacy Association have gotten together and tried to work out the mechanics so that they can have a formulary and generic prescribing, if you wish, just like they have in the hospitals. It works similarly, except on a larger scale, as it does in the hospitals.

Senator NELSON. Well, all right. Who made up the formulary in Delaware and Virginia? The local medical association, county, and the pharmacists—in association with whom?

Dr. STEINFELD. It was the two together, working together, that worked out the details, what would be included in it.

Senator NELSON. What is the progress on this model for community drug formulary program. It is an R. & D. program. You are going to test this in some parts of the country?

Dr. STEINFELD. We can get you a progress report on the ones—the models that Mr. Brands described. In addition, at Los Angeles County they are attempting to move from Los Angeles County General Hospital into certain communities, San Gabriel Valley just east of the county, in an attempt to see if the formulary used there can be applied in other areas in the Metropolitan Los Angeles area.

(The subsequent information was received and follows:)

A FORMULARY FOR DELAWARE PRACTITIONERS

Discussions at a joint meeting of the Delaware Medical Society and the Delaware Pharmaceutical Society resulted in the formation of an interdisciplinary group of health professionals with responsibility to develop guidelines in the areas of drug prescribing and dispensing and rational drug therapy.