

- b. Action on the request to put Triavil 4-25 Tablets on therapeutic trial was postponed until the next meeting. Dr. Harris will be invited to the meeting to present his request. It was also noted that the length of trial was not included on the request.
- c. In the future the person requesting a new item for therapeutic trial will be invited to the meeting to present his reasons for requesting the new item.
- d. The Chief, Pharmacy Service, discussed the source of supply of Acetaminophen Tablets, 300 mg. We are presently purchasing Tylenol at \$2.87 per 1000 and can purchase generic acetaminophen from the V. A. Supply Depot for \$2.28 per 1000. The present usage is approximately 50,000 tablets per month. The savings in purchasing the generic product would be about \$360.00 per year. Presently the V. A. Depot is supplying tablets made by Warner Labs. Joe T. Fisher, Pharmacy Resident, did comparisons of physical properties of the Warner Labs tablets and Tylenol Tablets by McNeil. The results were as follows:

Acetaminophen Tablets, 300 mg (Warner Labs)
 Cost: \$2.28 per 1000
 Disintegration Time: 29.5 seconds
 Average Hardness: 7.5 kg/cm²
 Average Weight: 430 mg

Tylenol Tablets, 300 mg (McNeil)
 Cost: \$2.87 per 1000
 Disintegration Time: 78.3 seconds
 Average Hardness: 8.5 kg/cm²
 Average Weight: 475.25 mg

The Committee felt that there were no significant differences in the two brands of tablets, as to physical properties. It was decided that pharmacy will purchase the generic acetaminophen tablets from the Depot and use them throughout the hospital. If any problems occur with the new tablets, they should be reported to Pharmacy Service.

- e. The Committee discussed and approved a request by Chief, Nursing Service, to allow administration of narcotics by licensed practical nurses in accordance with Interim Issue 10-71-32 (11/30/71). The following statement will be included in station policy: "Licensed practical nurses who through instruction and closely supervised practice have demonstrated competence in administration of medications may administer selected oral, hypodermic and intramuscular medication including narcotics."