

market. This has already been done on many fixed-dose combinations.

In the months ahead, as the results of this study reach more elements of our society, there will be a major impact on the public, the medical profession, the drug industry, and Government. In the end, much that is good will come from this study to the ultimate benefit of the medical profession and the public. The panels of the NAS-NRC have clearly and objectively pointed out the problem that faces us in the drug area. One of the great strengths of the study is that it has been a constructive joint effort of the medical profession and the Federal Government.

Procedures set up by this administration will allow a fair and equitable resolution of these problems in the months ahead. No precipitant actions will be taken and whatever actions are taken will be guided by detailed and fair analysis of adequate scientific data.

A new and high standard has been established for establishing proof of drug efficacy and for the evaluation of combination drugs through our new regulations on adequate and well-controlled studies and our combination drug policy. This alone should be a major factor in improving therapeutics in this Country. In time, ineffective drugs and irrational formulations will be removed from the market.

The effective drugs remaining will be clearly and accurately labeled so that physicians will have available to them the balanced information they need for rational drug use. Where possible, this information will be derived from adequate and well-controlled clinical studies.