

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 10515

to be discontinued. Additionally, the policy authorizes the services to make similar decisions concerning locally-procured drugs in this category or to delegate their authority to local P&T Committees.

The policy also authorizes the procurement of "possibly effective" drugs when no alternative means of therapy is available and final FDA determinations on their efficacy are expected to require a long period of time. However, both central and local procurements of these items are to be minimized to take into account the possibility that they may be finally determined by FDA to be ineffective and ordered removed from the market.

Shortly after June 1973, the military departments included the revised policy in their instructions for field installations together with up-to-date consolidated listings of FDA drug safety and effectiveness data for use by military medical personnel.

Under CHAMPUS, DOD has placed no restrictions on the drugs that may be prescribed and is not supplied detailed data concerning the specific drugs that are being paid for. Therefore, DOD could be paying for drugs under CHAMPUS which could not be procured for its direct care activities.