

APPENDIX V

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20405



JUL 6 1973

Honorable Elmer B. Staats
Comptroller General of the
United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Staats:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft report to the Congress on "Opportunities to Improve the Procurement and Supply of Pharmaceutical Drugs."

The draft report cites efforts to improve the management of medical material made by the General Services Administration (GSA) and other Federal agencies in the past and in conjunction with the recent Office of Management and Budget study of medical and nonperishable subsistence commodities. In addition, the General Accounting Office report should note that GSA currently is working closely with the Veterans Administration (VA) on a project to improve the present method of procuring drugs.

A coordinated study has been made to identify high dollar volume items and to utilize this information to improve the method of contracting. We are also addressing ourselves to the feasibility of developing a continuing system for accumulating demand data to support continued efforts to improve our contracts.

The collection of data on high dollar volume drug items required developing coding techniques for item identification. The preliminary experience and information gained on this study should be useful

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