

11880 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

I guess the question that Senator Kennedy asked us is essentially the same as that being discussed today since the MAC list is essentially a list of interchangeable drug products. And I would have to reach the same conclusion today that I did then -- namely, that I see no danger of therapeutic inequivalence if the list of drug entities to be included is based on careful selection by appropriate experts. However, I believe that the list will necessarily be more circumscribed than would be possible if the compendial standards were improved to give better assurance of bioequivalence.

Thank you for your attention. I will be happy to try to answer your questions.