

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 12291

Erythromycin Stearate 250 Milligram Tablets

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Distributor</u>	<u>Average Wholesale Price per hundred</u>
Mylan Labs.	Towne, Paulsen, & Co.	\$ 8.83
	Wyeth	9.35
	Progress Labs	
	Rexall Drug	
	Mallinkrodt	9.95
	Sherry Pharmacy	5.70
	SKF	10.15
	Alliance	

Tetracycline HCl 250 Milligram Capsules

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Distributor</u>	<u>Average Wholesale Price per hundred</u>
Mylan Labs.	A. H. Robins	\$ 3.25
	Towne, Paulsen & Co.	1.50
	Wolins	1.92
	Wyeth	2.06
	Invenex	
	Rexall	
	American Pharmacy	
	Central Pharmacal	
	Hoack Labs	

In the case of chloral hydrate there were recorded 17 distributors with prices varying from \$1.48 per hundred to \$5.00 per hundred, implying some sort of qualitative differences, despite the fact that all 17 had been manufactured in a single laboratory -- R. P. Scherer. Thus, differences in brand name and price do not guarantee differences in manufacturer, and it is difficult to believe that there are really any important differences between the various brands made in the same place by the same process.

On the other side of the coin, the APHA representatives at the meeting of 21 June 1974 presented data showing a change in active ingredient despite continuation of the same trade name. Thus, "Liquiprin" suspension (Thayer) formerly had salicylamide as the active ingredient; but this was changed to acetaminophen with no change in trade name, which remained "Liquiprin" suspension (Thayer). They also presented data showing that the manufacturer of a given drug product might change with no change in the trade name and other data showing that a single manufacturer sometimes marketed a single entity under two trade names. I shall attach copies of the 4 tables handed out by the APHA representatives at this meeting of 21 June 1974.