

12316 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF THE DRUG RESEARCH BOARD WITH REGARD TO DRUG PRODUCT ANTISUBSTITUTION LAWS

1. WHEREAS the patient's best welfare should be the ultimate goal of state statutes and regulations concerning drug product selection, which in operational terms means the best product for the lowest cost; and
2. WHEREAS the physician must have the ultimate responsibility and authority in drug product selection, since he alone has intimate knowledge of the patient and his pathology (with the attendant obligation to be held accountable for his selection of particular drug products to peer reviewers, for cost as well as the quality, which the first concern); and
3. WHEREAS the pharmacist may, in some situations, have greater knowledge of drug products than other health professionals, including knowledge of both quality and costs; and
4. WHEREAS it is appropriate that decisions with regard to choice of drug product be made by the health professional possessing the greatest amount of information involved in the particular selection in question, with the attendant accountability,
5. BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the physician, having selected the chemical entity to be used for therapy, may explicitly delegate to the pharmacist or retain to himself selection of the particular drug product to be dispensed and received by the patient;
6. AND FURTHER THAT any cost reduction thus achieved should be passed on, in full, to the patient.

*Review resolution
to be presented to full*
D.R.B.

Washington, D.C.
25 October, 1974