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**SUPPLEMENT**

**HEXACHLOROPHENE—Its Usage in the Nursery**

**Proceedings of a Conference held in Stowe, Vermont,  
under the auspices of the University of Vermont  
School of Medicine, June 1972**

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## INTRODUCTION

This conference was held in Stowe, Vermont under the auspices of the Department of Pediatrics, University of Vermont School of Medicine with funds donated by Winthrop Laboratories.

The purpose of the conference was to assemble as much of the recent and past evidence bearing on hexachlorophene and its usage in the nursery as was available at the time (June 1972) and to publish these studies as rapidly as possible so that physicians would be well informed on the subject.

The reader will find both sides of the argu-

ment about hexachlorophene presented and commented upon. I believe that, if he reads this tome, he will have a great deal more sympathy and understanding for the complexity of the problems involved. When one listens to experts in conflict, decisions are never easy. However, it is my hope that this publication will serve the practicing pediatrician by furnishing him with a clear view of both sides of the issue.

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our discussion. I would like to thank Dr. McKay and Dr. Lucey for organizing the conference through many trials and tribulations of acceptances and refusals. I would also like to thank Dr. Trout of Winthrop Laboratories for providing the financial support for the conference. And now Dr. Lucey for the final comments.

*Dr. Lucey:* A conference of this type is set up to explore all that is known on a subject and the end result is usually a better understanding of what is not known.

There is still a great deal of ignorance on the subject of HCP. Much needs to be learned. There is a great need for more carefully planned studies, especially in the area of neurotoxicity. It is not possible to legislate one's way out of ignorance. A ban on hexachlorophene would be as bad as legislation forcing us to use it. I am glad we have been able to end on a rational compromise note. Thank you all for coming.

The following two articles by Dr. Richard E. Dixon, et al., and Dr. Richard A. Kaslow, et al., and the statement from the Food and Drug Administration were not presented at the conference. They have been included in this supplement because of their important relevance to the subject. Comments written by Dr. James M. Sutherland and Dr. Monroe E. Trout have also been included for the readers.