



our ref  
contact  
for further  
information

ENS:JE

11 OCTOBER 1982

Department of  
Community Welfare Services  
Victoria

Winlaton Youth Training Centre  
186 Springvale Road  
Nunawading 3131  
Telephone (03) 878 5577

Winbirra Remand Centre  
Telephone (03) 878 9828

MISS FAYE GUY  
PRINCIPAL PHARMACIST  
COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. BOX 100  
WODEN, A.C.T. 2616

RE: DEPO PROVERA

Dear Miss Guy,

I read with concern the news item from the AGE newspaper on Saturday, 18th September, 1982 which is attached herein.

I am Superintendent of Victoria's only statutory institution for sentenced females (ages 15 to 21 years and wards of state over the age of 14 years). In this capacity, I have a strong interest in any publicity regarding the contraceptive injection, Depo Provera; this contraceptive is used in Winlaton.

Winlaton's current position is to administer this form of contraception upon request with parental consent, and under medical supervision. As an Administrator, my hesitation with its use is based on the position of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration which refuses to approve it.

In order to ensure that this institution is accurately informed and continually advised in the matter of Depo Provera, I recently wrote to the Federal Drug Administration in the U.S.A. I asked for information on the outcome of their Public Board of Inquiry into the marketing of the drug. I've enclosed a copy of a letter to Ms. Linda Quinones, dated 24th August, 1982, which is self explanatory; I've also included a letter to me dated 17th September, 1982, from Mr. George F. Kenter. This is the latest in my correspondence on the issue.

I would be pleased to know what is the stance of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee (A.D.E.C.) regarding Depo Provera. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration took its latest stand in March, 1981; I've sent this material to you, also.

If you could send me any information in support of the A.D.E.C. position, I would be grateful.

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In addition I offer to send you copies of any material which I gather from the U.S.A.

Yours faithfully,



DR. EILEEN N. SLACK  
SUPERINTENDENT

Enc: AGE article.

Photo copy of article from Department of Health and Human Services dated March, 1981.

Four letters.