

SRE/JP/46D.

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METABOLIC COMPETITORS

Canada's suggestions appear to be a rational chemists' approach to an interesting but rather academic problem and, in some ways, is a natural outcome of all their enzyme work.

It is considered, however, that any work in this area would eventually give information about an indirect effect and it would be very difficult to relate this to a real effect "in-vivo".

In addition it is also considered that the prime requirement is for test systems designed to measure all types of biological activity and, providing this aim is achieved, these should measure toxicity due to both direct and indirect mechanisms. Only subsequently is an understanding of mechanisms required.

In conclusion we would consider that this subject warrants no more than a "watching brief" at present.

*A.R.E.*

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