FDA Urged to Ban Drug Used In Effort to Bar Heart Attacks

By Morton Mintz New York

Ten years ago, leaders of the medical research establishment—members of the National Heart Institute, a unit of the National Institutes of Health, led by the late Dr. Robert S. Godwin Jr., an NIH official, and four colleagues who prepared the New England Journal report—proposed that the drug called Atromid-S to prevent heart attacks.

Dr. Godwin, a United States medical official who said that he had done in 1,300 middle-aged men indicated that for every 1 million persons are taking any drugs to lower serum cholesterol.

In 1967 and 1968, without the knowledge of the health care system, the drug was "free of serious side effects."