DISCUSSION

CONFORTINI (Verona): I would ask Professor Giovannetti what the behaviour is of methylguanidine during maintenance haemodialysis.

GIOVANNETTI (Pisa): We have some experience on this point. By using two-layer Kii dialysers we have found that the dialysance of methylguanidine is about 45 ml per minute. During dialysis with a two-layer Kii kidney the plasma concentration of methylguanidine usually decreases to half its initial value.

OREOPoulos (Athens): When I worked with Professor Yatzidis in Athens, we estimated both phenol compounds and methylguanidine in uraemic patients, and we found both these elements constantly elevated in all these patients. Our results on the clearance of phenol compounds are similar in that the clearance of phenol compounds is half of the creatinine clearance, while the clearance of methylguanidine with a coil kidney was even smaller. The phenol compounds particularly are absorbed from the gut, and we found that oral administration of charcoal decreases the phenol compounds almost to normal and slightly reduces the methylguanidine. Figures for the charcoal kidney were: in half an hour it has a clearance for both the phenol compounds and methylguanidine, almost twice that of a six-hour dialysis with the coil kidney.

NIELSEN (Copenhagen): Was Dr. Giovannetti also able to demonstrate denervation potentials in muscle in his dogs?

GIOVANNETTI (Pisa): We did not study this point.