

*F. Lellens  
Matejcek*

May 7, 1980

Mr. Milan Matejcek  
Sandoz A.G.  
CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland

Dear Milan,

For your examination of the EEG effects of nootropic drugs, you may wish to write to Per Mindus (Department of Neurophysiology, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm). I understand he has some reports on piracetam which are inconclusive.

My best.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:sl

*J. Sellers  
Matejcek*

May 5, 1980

Mr. Milan Matejcek  
Sandoz A.G.  
CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland

Dear Milan,

We have never developed a special program of analysis for 'nootropic' drugs. In our work, we have taken compounds of different structure, and sought to assess their EEG profiles against the known active compounds for different mental conditions. In the absence of any effective compounds for the alleviation of the memory changes seen in the elderly, we have not been able to define a nootropic profile. I have enclosed copies of our most recent reports, including the summary prepared for the 1978 EEG congress.

On two occasions, we analyzed tapes prepared by others in their study of supposed vasodilators. These reports were negative, but I enclose copies of the data summary for your information. While these are unpublished, you may quote them if you wish as personal communications.

As an opinion, I would say that the evidence presented so far, for a definite profile for a nootropic class of drugs is unconvincing. I have yet to see a definite report of either EEG or clinical activity for piracetam, and the data for other such agents is equally weak. In a similar vein, we have been unable to define activity for the fragments of ACTH and it is unlikely that the slight behavioral effects will have any clinical utility.

Good luck in your review. I look forward to reading a copy when it is completed.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.