

January 14, 1966

Dr. McKeen Cattell, Editor
The Journal of New Drugs
1300 York Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Dr. Cattell;

Please accept my apologies for not answering your letter of December 3, sooner. However, the questions which you raised were very germane and my associates and I have struggled with them during the past few weeks. On at least two occasions I have sat down and dictated letters which attempted to answer the questions which you raised and to justify the points of view represented in our discussion. These seemed incomplete and so we have redrafted the report and two copies are enclosed for your consideration.

We have added the description of the changes in our patients during the initial observation period when the patients were given a placebo. In large part, the changes were those that are ordinarily seen on drug withdrawal in psychotic subjects with an increase in psychopathological symptoms.

It is true that relatively few patients were studied and the results cannot assume statistical significance. Nevertheless, considering the present status of trifluoperidol as a therapeutic compound, we believed that our observations did contribute some additional information, specifically with regard to the higher dosage levels.

Most of our interest has been focussed on the question of the lessening of neurological effects as dosage is increased. The EEG data provided support for the suggestion that trifluoperidol in higher dosages has effects similar to anticholinergic compounds. It is this suggestion which we are elaborating in the discussion.

While this may relate to the lessening of neurological effects, we can contribute little to the delayed improvement after treatment was discontinued.

Thank you once again for your questions and your interested consideration of this study.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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