

December 17, 1971

Professor Ian Oswald
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Dear Ian:

It was good to hear your report in Mexico City, and on my return, I had the occasion to re-read your report on fenfluramine and imipramine. As I understand your thesis, the abuse potential is "blocked" by initial unpleasantness, or unpleasantness during withdrawal. This suggestion is descriptive enough, and is probably accurate. Some years ago, we attempted a sudden withdrawal from imipramine and found our subject to develop "withdrawal" symptoms (Withdrawal Symptoms Following Discontinuation of Imipramine Therapy, *American J. Psychiat.*, 118: 549-550, 1961).

Using your model, is it not true that "dependence" develops to all drugs, given chronically? We have observed, and others reported, withdrawal effects for phenothiazines and antihistamines, and I would expect careful studies to show withdrawal to other drugs.

Your suggestions are provocative, as was your presentation. My best wishes for a successful and healthy 1972.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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