

October 14, 1971

Dr. Barrett Scoville, M.D.
FDA
Rockville, Maryland

Dear Barrett,

I am writing in reply to your request for information from our study of 1-alpha-acetylmethadol (IND 6590).

We are completing the data analysis for the two groups of patients, 10 each, who received methadone (100 mg daily) or 1-alpha-acetylmethadol (3x/wk). Three of the patients are now completing their 4th month of treatment, and our evaluation period extends for 6 months in each case.

From the initial group, it is clear, however, that 1-alpha-acetylmethadol is equivalent in every way on a 3x/week schedule to methadone-- in patient acceptance, staff awareness, urine test results, duration of antagonism (cross tolerance) to injected heroin, and drop out rates. Indeed, I am impressed with the data, and have asked my associates to complete a preliminary report for your use, as I believe that further testing of this drug is warranted, both in the maintenance of patients, and during the ambulatory withdrawal schedules now actively used in my city.

I believe you should alert the Methadone Advisory Committee and/or SAODAP that such data is available shortly.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

P.S. The difference in our recent results from earlier published results is in the dosage schedule of 70-70-80 mg.