

F. Dimpfler

March 28, 1974

Jonathan O. Cole, M.D.
Boston State Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Jon,

Enclosed are some of the forms that we are now using to maintain alertness in our subjects and to assess changes in behavior during our phase-I EEG classification trials. Our principal method of assessing behavioral change is to ask the subjects to open their eyes every 4 minute and 20 seconds (and to keep eyes open for 40 seconds), asking: "Do you feel any change?" Alternate inquiries add,

"On a scale of -6 to +6, would you rate any change in your state of alertness (awareness)?" The subjects are told at the onset of the experiment that their present state is to be rated as '0'.

The symptom questionnaire is used before, at the mid-point of the experiment, and after the experiment is over. Examiner asks and notes responses.

CMS: a self rating completed by the subject before the experiment, at the mid-point, and at the end. Rating is either by hand or by computer program.

Irwin inquiry: an open-ended sheet to maintain a running log of the subject's behavior, answers to questions, movements, etc. In the left columns, time is noted; 'as' is the alertness score given by the subject; 'bz' is the number of times a hand-held buzzer was released during the previous time period; and '123' reflects another scoring estimate used by us in examining the effects of benzodiazepines, and not relevant for your work. Page 2 of the inquiry is completed at the end of the experiment.

From this range of behavioral inquiries, we believe we have teased out some aspects of the subtle behavioral changes in our subjects when we have used threshold doses of novel and established compounds.

I trust these comments are helpful. Good luck !

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.