

January 25, 1971

Dr. William Abruzzi, M.D.
Student Personnel Division
Student Health Center
State University College
New Paltz, New York 12561

Dear Dr. Abruzzi:

As you know, there is no satisfactory therapy of opiate dependence, and prevention and education remain the principal routes to success. Methadone substitution is useful and legal, providing a politically satisfactory solution.

In the research laboratories, a process of deconditioning with the aid of narcotic antagonists, as naloxone and cyclazocine, is under study, but the procedures are not yet available for general clinical trial.

For heroin O.D., I suggest you write Dr. Dole at Rockefeller University. He has completed a responsible review and recommends nalorphine in repeated doses (every 4 hours); and naloxone (IV, 1 mg/4 hours) when it becomes available (Naloxone, Endo Labs, Garden City, L.I., N.Y.).

If you are planning to visit the city, you may wish to visit our unit and speak to my associates who are treating our narcotic addicts in a variety of ways.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kt