

May 27, 1966

Dr. John F. Monroe
Associate Medical Director
The Squibb Institute for Medical Research
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Monroe:

I am pleased to report that the study program on fluphenazine decanoate at this institution has now completed its data collection phase. Twenty patients have begun this medication since October 7, 1965. Some of the patients who began at the end of last year are still receiving the compound and so we have a period of observation varying from one to six months. In general, the compound has been most effective in modifying the psychotic process of the severe mentally ill. While we have had some dyskinesias, these have been much less than we anticipated and the patient and staff acceptance of this preparation is excellent. We have, for a number of the patients, recommended the concomitant administration of procyclidine varying in amounts from 10 to 30 milligrams per day.

For this patient population representing the very severe mentally ill, the therapeutic effects have been remarkably good. Indeed, it is the staff's opinion that they wish to continue the administration of Prolixin in all the patients who are now receiving the medication, especially the four who are back in the community.

The data analysis phase will now begin and I anticipate that we will be able to supply you with a definitive report by the end of July. We will send you copies of the case summaries, a report of the clinical patterns and the results of our analyses of the rating scales as well as summaries of the laboratory data. Is there any additional information that you would wish?

As you know, I am leaving St. Louis to join the staff of the New York Medical College. My new address will be:

Department of Psychiatry
New York Medical College
Fifth Avenue at 106th Street
New York, New York 10029

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Is it necessary to have another member of the staff designated as investigator in order to provide supplies and to continue the administration of Prolixin decanoate to those patients who already have begun? If so, would you please send me the appropriate forms and I will arrange to have them signed and submitted to you. I will, at that time, turn over all the remaining supplies of Prolixin that I have to my co-workers in St. Louis.

The interest in this compound has been high and we are wondering if you would consider an additional study. For the past two years we have carried out an intensive investigation of a group of therapy resistant psychotics. It was because a number of these had been discharged and had returned because they had failed to take their medication that we sought the Prolixin enanthate. There are approximately 16 patients now in the discharged group from our original study population. Of this group, the majority are receiving butaperazine daily. We would consider the gradual transfer of these patients from a daily oral medication to Prolixin on an out-patient basis, and then transfer them to Prolixin decanoate, if such a study would be of interest to your laboratories.

I am pleased to tell you that I am planning to establish clinical facilities for the evaluation of new drugs at the Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York. This facility is part of the Department of Psychiatry of the New York Medical College, and the acute population as well as the Out-Patient Department lend themselves to the kind of investigations which we have established in St. Louis. I look forward to continuing my relationship with you and with Dr. Sanseigne who was kind enough to call me last week.

Thank you once again for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:jmh

cc: Dr. A. J. Sanseigne
Associate Medical Director
Squibb Institute for Medical Research
New Brunswick, New Jersey