

20 March 1974

Robert DuPont, M.D.  
Director  
SAODAP and NIDA  
726 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. DuPont:

Two days ago, I received an inquiry from Jan Volavka, M.D., head of the neurophysiology division of the Department of Psychiatry, New York Medical College, regarding charges for processing of EEG data. He indicated that he had proposed to SAODAP that his laboratory process records in the SAODAP Collaborative Methadone-Levomethadyl Study. As a justification for his budgetary request, he indicated that using our facilities would cost \$100/hour for machine time for processing.

I am writing to indicate that this is a gross error. This laboratory was established by the National Institute of Mental Health, and we have processed data of interest to that Institute as well as to NIDA at either no direct cost; or, where funds were available, at rates from \$1/record to \$5.50/hour. The latter charge is the one that has been used in Contract HSM 42-70-98, and is well below the estimate approved by the contracting officer in 1970.

In July, 1973, following meetings of the V.A. Study Group for LAAM and Methadone, I submitted a letter, dated July 27, 1973, to Dr. Sam Kaim indicating the costs which I projected would be incurred in collecting and processing the V.A. levomethadyl-methadone data. A copy of my budget of that data is attached. You will note that the principal cost is equipping the laboratories for proper recording. Here, too, we indicated that our cost was \$5.50/machine hour, but because of the proposed duration of recordings and the method of collection, we estimated a cost of \$1,000-1,200 for 90 subjects recorded at 4 separate occasions, each occasion of 30 minutes' duration.

R. DuPont, M.D.

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Please be advised that this note is written not as an offer to participate in your study program, but to clarify a gross distortion in quotation made by my former associate. I would be grateful if you would direct this information to the appropriate officer in your organization so that the records can be corrected.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

MF/cis  
Encl.