

PRF

March 10, 1954

Dr. David Baecker and Dr. John Shapleigh
Mallinckrodt Chemical Corporation
Second and Mallinckrodt Streets
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Dr. Baecker and Dr. Shapleigh:

This letter is to confirm the understanding which we arrived at this afternoon in a meeting at 5400 Arsenal Street. The meeting was attended by Drs. Turan Itil, Samuel Gershon, Harry Neubecker, and myself, representing the Psychiatric Research Foundation of Missouri; and yourselves, representing the Mallinckrodt Chemical Corporation.

The subject of the meeting was a discussion of our observations regarding the use of two compounds, Ditran and chlorpromazine, as anesthetic and sedating agents. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibilities of a collaborative arrangement between the Foundation and Mallinckrodt Chemical Corporation with respect to the study of this mixture for medical use.

At this meeting, my associates disclosed the results of studies of the combined use of these two compounds in our laboratories. We indicated that the sedating effects of chlorpromazine were markedly potentiated by small amounts of Ditran. In combination, in dosages of a few mgs. each, a deep coma has been observed. During such coma, the EEG tracings exhibited deep sleep patterns, and the patients were not aroused by painful stimuli.

Some studies have also been undertaken in the combined use of atropine and chlorpromazine, and these seem to have a similar but less active potentiation.

Dr. Beeder and Stapleigh

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At your request, a supply of Ditran was made available to Dr. Beeder for a trial in the beboon. It was our understanding that if such a trial shows a favorable effect, you would present the observations to the suitable committee at the Mallinckrodt Corporation, for their recommendation. In the event that the Corporation is interested in pursuing this problem further, by obtaining a use patent or additional study, it was indicated that the Corporation would negotiate with the Foundation for the necessary agreements.

In the event that the experiments with the beboon are unsatisfactory or that the Corporation wishes to proceed no further, it is our understanding that the Corporation will keep these observations confidential and advise us promptly so we can proceed with another concern.

No other agreements were made or implied, except that the confidentiality of the information was to be respected by you until some future time when the information is either made public by us, or our mutual agreement upon the conditions for such publication.

It was a pleasure to work with you this afternoon, and I look forward to continued collaboration.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Executive Director

NF/jb

cc: Mr. Lewis B. Stuart
Dr. George A. Ulett
Dr. Samuel Gershon
Dr. Turen Itil