

October 12, 1966

Mr. Robert C. Zwahlen  
Medical Liaison Staff  
Clinical Investigation Department  
Smith, Kline and French Laboratory  
1500 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Dear Bob,

I would like to bring you up-to-date in our barbiturate - EEG study. The data collection ended in June and during the past few months, samples at every 12 minutes were selected in relation to the reaction time experience. These samples were checked for artefact and the data of the various subjects was put on a disk.

The first analyses were to determine whether there were any significant differences in any of the EEG variables in the four groups prior to drug administration at any of the treatment periods. The data demonstrated that the groups were equivalent for each of the EEG variables for each of the four drug conditions, with the exception that three of thirty-seven indices showed considerable variability during the first study in these subjects. That is, some of the subjects exhibited lesser amounts of alpha activity and more beta activity in their first recording than in the subsequent three recordings.

This observation is not unique since many observers have reported that patients may be very anxious during the first session and perhaps this single record should have been thrown out. However, since different treatments were used in the first drug period on a random basis, we do not think that this will significantly bias the overall change data.

Mr. Zwahlen

-2-

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Tests for differences ascribable to drug effects at each time period are now in progress and I have been assured by my St. Louis associates that the data should be available within the next few weeks. As soon as I have this I will call you and will arrange for us to go over them together.

Thank you once again for your interest.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

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