

December 5, 1972

Mary McGlaughlin, M.D.  
Commissioner of Health  
125 Worth Street  
Room 604  
New York, New York

Dear Dr. McGlaughlin:

I want to express my appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the seminar on the possible role of propranolol in narcotic addiction. The session was most interesting and useful.

While we would be pleased to undertake a direct test of the narcotic antagonism of propranolol with heroin "challenges", you should know that we have been enjoined from further research studies at Metropolitan Hospital, and until we relocate our laboratories, this interesting study will be deferred.

Parenthetically, we have had difficulty in obtaining payment for the animal toxicology studies of diprenorphine (M-5050), which we undertook in good faith in March 1972. The assays are almost complete, lacking only the final review of the histological slides. Mr. Jacobs of your staff has been most helpful, and regretfully tells us that reimbursement can only be provided on completion and filing of the report (the "product"), and its approval by agencies of the City. I have communicated this to Dr. Woodard, the subcontractor, and it is difficult for him to accept such an interpretation of the contract. As a small business, he feels that he is in some difficulty, lacking any payments during the course of the work.

Perhaps, you can exert your good offices to assist Mr. Jacobs in gaining the necessary approvals for the statements already submitted.

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Because the subcontractor has expressed his needs so forcefully, we have also sought the assistance and advice of SAODAP, on the assumption that these data, once in the public domain, will expedite the filing of an IND, and the testing of diprenorphine (M-5050).

Again, my thanks for your consideration in inviting my participation in a most interesting session.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

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