

January 11, 1968

Mr. Gilbert M. Barcus
McNeil Laboratories Inc.
3310 Nostrand Ave.
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mr. Barcus:

I regret that your failure to call my office for the opportunity to present your questions may have led to some confusion. You must know that a consultation in the hall is highly inappropriate.

If I understand your question, it was whether we were willing to undertake a clinical study of haloperidol or any other procedure which would make this drug available for clinical use.

Please be advised that for the past year the Department of Psychiatry has had an established committee to review recommendations for new drugs for clinical use. This committee, the Psychopharmacology Study Group, meets at irregular intervals at the request of the Chairman to review the available data prior to making recommendations to the Formulary Committee of the Medical Board of Metropolitan Hospital.

If McNeil Laboratories is interested in having haloperidol reviewed, I would suggest that you write a letter to me and submit six copies of any information you wish to bring before the committee. I will be pleased to have the committee review this recommendation at its next meeting.

Incidentally, the administration of compounds not accepted in the formulary by members of the staff is governed by the regulations regarding research in humans. To comply with those regulations it would be necessary to submit a formal protocol to the Research Committee of the Medical School, the Medical Board of Metropolitan Hospital and to the Commissioner of Hospitals of the City of New York. For this reason, I would urge you not to distribute samples of this compound for clinical trial as you attempted with me.

As I indicated, I would be pleased to hear from members of your research division at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp

cc: Dr. V. Slotnick