

February 15, 1965

Mr. Robert C. Zwahlen  
Smith, Kline & French Laboratories  
1500 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Dear Bob:

It was a pleasure having you visit us on Thursday. The second series of analyses are now in progress, and I trust that I will have the study completed within the next four weeks.

I would be grateful if your laboratories can help us with a specific problem. Early last year, the study group under Dr. Itil's direction examined the EEG and clinical effects of the combination of chlorpromazine and Ditrane. They were impressed with the clinical effect and a number of trials were undertaken with other anti-cholinergic drugs, insofar as Ditrane is an experimental agent. Similar results were achieved with atropine. However, the dosage of atropine necessary to induce clinical effects was in the range of 10 to 20 mgs/day. To accomplish this dosage by the parenteral route required large amounts of fluid to be injected. Insofar as we would like to administer this dosage daily for a number of weeks, we are desirous of obtaining concentrated atropine in injectable form.

For this application, we would like to have atropine sulphate in a concentration of three to five mg/cc. This should be made available in either ampules or vials and we would need a quantity equal to 5,000 units (1,000 units at 5 mg/cc) for the initial study.

I would be grateful if the pharmacologists at SKF could advise us as to whether such a concentration can be produced either at your laboratories, or by a commercial concern whom we may contact directly. If this concentration is not practical, can you advise us as to a concentration which could be developed?

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

MF: jm