

J. Levine  
(Levine)

October 16, 1979

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Dear Jerry,

Thank you for the copy of "Coordinating Clinical Trials in Psychopharmacology", which I was able to read this past week-end. It is an excellent addition to the earlier guidelines which have been issued by the Institute, and it provides an enviable standard for future trials. I have notified some of the sponsors of our studies of the publication of the volume, and I am sure that they will find it useful.

I also want to thank you for the assistance you have given Dr. Henk van Riezen of Organon. He has accepted the responsibility for developing a set of guidelines for the clinical trials sponsored by that company, and he has written a number of recommendations which clearly meet NCDEU standards. I believe these will be adopted by his masters for studies in the U.S. as well as world-wide (although they have some problems with coordinating the trials in countries where the AMP system is standard).

Our own laboratories continue to assess new drugs in phase I trials, and we have identified three new putative psychoactive drugs in the past 18 months which have much promise. One, Org 3770, is clearly much more active than mianserin and yields a similar EEG and behavioral profile, promising to be even safer than mianserin in lack of cardiotoxicity and anticholinergic effects. We have been frustrated by the studies of ACTH fragments, and are optimistic that the 1980 studies of other peptides (DTPE and DGAVP) will be more rewarding. My book on ECT (*Convulsive Therapy: Theory and Practice*) has been well received and the first reviews were most kind. It also received one of the 1979 Anna Monika Foundation awards, so I am rather pleased.

Again, thank you for sending the volume. My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry