

F. letters

M E M O R A N D U M

June 22, 1972

TO: A. M. Freedman, M.D.
FROM: Max Fink, M.D.
SUBJECT: Proposal, "Effects in Man of the Chronic Administration of Methadone or Cyclazocine"

The proposal is an experimental study in addicts, involving tongue biopsy and infusions of methacholine and *l*-norephrinephrine to define cholinergic effects of methadone (or cyclazocine). The study bears no direct or indirect benefit to the subjects.

The proposal alludes to some experimentation data on the mouse and salamander, but it is not clear what the relevance of these data for man may be.

The author treats methadone and cyclazocine as if they were equivalent drugs. For example, what print data was obtained in animals with cyclazocine?

The protocol is incomplete. How many subjects; how selected; and by whom? What will be paid the addict volunteers? If not paid, what benefit will they get? If any is part of treatment regimen, who is responsible? What will be done with the samples?

The infusions are cited but for the protocol, we do not know how subjects will be selected; who will be present, what duration and what criteria for the end of infusion. What of the blood pressure effects? How will vagal effects be assessed and how will subjects be protected?

In sum, the protocol is incomplete, particularly as to the selection of subjects and benefits for subjects
ting.