

Subject:

A double-blind multicentre study comparing Paroxetine and

Fluoxetine in patients with symptoms of anxiety, associated with

major depressive disorder.

Date:

23 November 1993

Please find enclosed the letter from regarding the Paroxetine study. According to the letter the Ethics Committee of the New South Wales Centre has decided to cease the enrolments because of the reported cases of suicide gestures, though the number of these cases were thought not to be medication related.

I would like to enclose some information about the Paroxetine study conducted in the

25 patients enrolled in the study.

4 patients are currently taking study medication.

16 patients completed the study, 7 patients entered the follow up phase; they have been taking the medication since; none of them are depressed at the moment.

5 patients terminated the study prematurely.

I committed suicide (Ethics Committee was notified).

3 patients decided to withdraw because of lack of efficacy or unpleasant side effects (nausea, indigestion).

1 patient lived too far from the hospital; she could not keep her appointments.

I patient took an overdose; she completed the study.

I patient expressed suicidal ideals, he was admitted to hospital; the patient is still included in the study.

1 patient was admitted to hospital for serious asthma attacks (Ethics Committee was notified in all cases).

The suicide and suicidal ideas appeared after the patients commenced on medication.

Kind regards