

Minutes of the Working Committee of ISGIDAR: August 17, 1979 held at the Department of Pharmacology, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia

Attended by: Robert Balster (President), Joseph Brady, Roland Griffiths, Louis Harris, Chris-Ellyn Johanson (Secretary), Charles Schuster, James Woods

Balster reviewed the current role of ISGIDAR

1. Annual Meeting
2. Newsletter
3. Self-Administration (and related topics) Bibliography

There was a discussion of our relationship with CPDD particularly in view of the availability of funds in their small grant program. The question is how involved do we as an organization wish to become with the clinical testing of compounds for abuse liability. Balster reviewed some of the feelings about this issue expressed at the June meeting. Khazan, for instance, felt that ISGIDAR should continue to just be a basic research group and stay away from applied activities. We reminded ourselves, however, that ISGIDAR really started because of applied interests. Given that ARC at Lexington is gone, it was agreed that there is a real need for basic research on the reinforcing properties of drugs in humans. The small grant program of CPDD wishes to fill this gap by giving grants to personnel in already established places. FDA would like to know how much human data are needed, what type is essential for scheduling. ISGIDAR might be able to provide this sort of information. It could as well try to encourage its membership to apply for the CPDD money since as an organization it would be difficult to apply itself or foster a joint grant. Therefore, for the time being it was decided that at this point we will 1) announce the availability of the funds in the Newsletter and 2) alter the bylaws of our organization (if necessary) to make it clear that the membership is also interested in human drug self-administration.

Balster discussed his meeting sponsored by APA concerning psychologists interested in substance abuse. These psychologists feel discriminated against by APA because their research cannot be published in APA journals and careers in this area are difficult to foster within psychology departments. Psychiatry also feels left out. Those in charge are ex-addict types who have an anti-professional bias. Does ISGIDAR want to get involved in this problem. It was decided that

this types of problem is better dealt with by Division 28 of APA. To get people from all these areas together for a single meeting is not enough. A continued plan is necessary.

A decision was made to hold a half day symposium at the 1980 Federation meetings on Drugs as Reinforcers in Animals and Humans. We will sponsor this meeting in order to make our name more visible. We decided not to include Division 28 for reasons:

1. increase our prestige
2. not enough time to get Lew Seiden the liason person from Div. 28 involved.
3. Div. 28 should really sponsor a bigger deal that covers more than just drugs as reinforcers.

The program, as follows, was submitted to Dewey who will present it to the Federation August 20 for approval.

Woods-Narcotic

Griffiths-Sedatives and Stimulants

Johanson-Drug Preferences in Humans

Balster-Phencyclidine and Related Drugs

Fischman-Cocaine

Goldberg-Nicotine.

Balster will send a letter to the participants requesting their participation. In the Newsletter we will simply announce a tentative program without names and mention that at the next meeting of ISGIDAR we should consider forming liasons with other groups, e.g. Federation, APA, CPDD

One of ISGIDAR's goals is³ the continuance of the bibliography. However, it was felt that for a really adequate job, support money is needed. We decided to ask CPDD to support a person (younger professional) for about \$5000 plus expenses. However, no one was assigned the task. ↙

The rest of the meeting concentrated on deciding on what kind of meeting we should have to make ourselves visible to the important people (FDA,WHO,NIDA,CPDD) and foster good research and a reasonable approach to the clinical testing of the abuse liability of new compounds. We definitely decided to have a meeting.

Format

1. Decide on presenters-they give informal papers on areas or their research. They send out relevant papers to rest of participants before the meeting.
2. During first day or two everyone (small group-maybe 30-40) meets together

to hear and discuss the presentations

3. Groups of no more than 6 meet and write reports on certain subjects (see below)
4. Everyone meets together to discuss reports
5. Final write and presentation.

The form of the final presentation is undecided. Should it be just this small but important group or some larger group, e.g. plenary session of CPDD.

The first step is to seek support. The following assignments were made.

Schuster-FDA

Brady-DEA

Griffiths-Jasinski

Balster and Harris-Companies

Balster agreed to get stationary printed and send out a summary of how the requests should be worded so that we all are of the same mind.

Of utmost importance, of course, is the group of people (not just presenters) who get invited. Important people should be there but size should be kept small.

The following were suggested

Nolis, Jasinski, J. Cole, Chicago group, Baltimore group, Pickens, Hollister, Reese, Jarvik, Houde, Setzer, Martin, Unna, ARC group, Mendelson and Mello, Billie Jones, McNair, Roger Myer, Calabrese, Himmelsback, Fraser, Isbell, Wikler, Hloffmeister, Yanagita, Kielholz, Kelsey, Finkle, Katzenell, Tocus, Lahey, Lawrence, Crout, Snider, Renault, Howard McClean, Pollin, various commissioners

Subjects for small groups:

1. Subject selection
2. Relationship between self-administration and subjective effects
3. Is it necessary to produce dependence in humans
4. Relationship between self-administration, subjective effects and abuse.
5. Drug profile approach
6. Ethical issues
7. Relationship with preclinical testing
8. Relationship with clinical testing
9. Conclusions and New Directions for Research i.e. necessary data, epidemiology

What do we need money for

1. Travel
2. Pay for writers
3. Clerical help
4. Mailing supplies