

The Search for an Ideal Analgesic: Lessons from the NIH Medicines Development Program

17th Summit Meeting
Tufts Health Care Institute
Program on Opioid Risk Management

Nathaniel Katz, MD, MS – Sheraton Hotel, Boston – May 4-5, 2011



Medicines Development Program

- Began 1929 under National Science Foundation
- Three groups: chemistry under Dr. Lyndon Small, pharmacology under Dr. Nathan Eddy and clinical under Dr. Clifton Himmelsbach.
- Evolved into College on Problems of Drug Dependence.
- Drug Evaluation Committee (DEC) of the CPDD provided data to FDA and the WHO and to the DEA for possible scheduling.
- Virtually all narcotics and antagonists now in use were evaluated by the DEC (CPDD) testing program.
- About 12,000 compounds from research groups worldwide were evaluated before the testing program terminated in February, 2008 because of lack of funding for drug testing
- Most of the data was published in NIDA monographs and is available online since 1979 to the public at no charge.



Drug Evaluation Committee (DEC)

[DEC](#) | [CPDD](#) | [Submission Form](#) | [Annual Reports](#) | [Indices](#)

Drug Evaluation Committee

DEC will not be accepting compounds after 28 February 2007. DEC has provided a valuable service to many in industry, academia, and government for many years. The decision to discontinue accepting compounds for evaluation was taken after much discussion, and was not an easy decision to make. We would like to thank the scientists with whom we have worked, and will aid in finding alternative mechanisms for the evaluation of new compounds. Please contact [Andy Coop](#) or [Jim Woods](#), if you would like such help. Thanks. Andy

The Drug Evaluation Committee ([DEC](#)) provided preclinical abuse liability assessment of opioids, stimulants, and depressants. DEC is sponsored by The College on Problems of Drug Dependence ([CPDD](#)), and was provided as a public health service at no charge.

Objectives - 1

- What did we learn in the medicines development program?
 - What is our current strategy to develop better analgesics?
 - Are there any research approaches, or compounds, that we should take forward?

Objectives - 2

- What are the policy implications of the dwindling of the NIH/CPDD pain medicines development program, in the face of twin epidemics of pain and prescription opioid abuse?
 - Should the program be reshaped, revived, refunded, rethought.....
 - How?

Agenda

Day 1: Drug Development

- F Vocci – intro
- NCampbell – history
- R Payne – need
- L Harris/F Vocci – chemistry
- J Woods – pharmacology
- T Priszano – new chemistry approaches
- G Pasternak – new pharmacology approaches
- D Shelton – pharma approaches
- D Jasinski / N Katz – clinical testing

Day 2: Policy

- K Verberg – pharma strategy
- K Kelly – advocacy
- L Porter – NIH pain activity
- R Dworkin - ACTION
- R Saner – Legislative scan
- N Katz / F Vocci - discussion

Housekeeping Notes

- Your packets
- Fill out your evaluations
- Thumb drives tomorrow
- Turn on/off your microphone
- Cell phones
- Have fun

Thanks!!!

- Frank Vocci
- THCI: Rosemarie Curran, Amy Rosenstein, Sarah Haile, Rosalie Phillips
- Our speakers
- Our financial supporters
- You, our participants