

→ R.I.C. 76 pg / fox 4/3/93

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

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Subject: MINS:PQ BBB AT FERNHURST

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66070228
Case ID: 220300429
Control No.: 26064959
SYNG-PQ-33970228

C O N F I D E N T I A L

PARAQUAT AND THE BLOOD BRAIN BARRIER

Meeting at Fernhurst - 17 February 1993

Present:	Mr G A Willis	RAD
	Mr I S Chart	RAD
	Dr N N Sabapathy	S&SD
	Dr E D Brown	CTL
	Dr E A Lock	CTL
	Dr M Simpson	CTL
	Dr R C Scott	CTL

A copy of the agenda is attached and the following note relates to the discussion.

Attention was focussed on the relatively new data coming from a group in Rome (Corasaniti and colleagues) and Uppsala (Eriksson and colleagues). It was agreed that paper rebuttals could be made, particularly to highlight the uncertainty about the scientific viability of the findings. These rebuttals, however, would not be robust. The reports of the presence of PQ actually getting into the brain by the systemic route were particularly disturbing and this was seen as an area for confirmation.

It was possible that the findings might have been a consequence of poor experimental procedures. Similarly, the histopathology changes may have been artefacts, but this cannot at present be confirmed. Generally, this was the difficulty with the literature papers: intellectual considerations were possible but we were weak when it came to providing strong scientifically sound data to refute or dismiss the findings. It was obvious that if we were accessing these papers they would be available to Regulatory Authorities and allegations could gather momentum: particularly, in the near future, as PQ comes up for review. These findings might be of particular interest to critics of PQ and the significance of the reported findings might increase in perspective.

It was seen as advantageous to meet with the groups in Rome and Uppsala. It would be appropriate to delay this until we had some data of our own to take along to discuss.

It was considered prudent to initiate some studies in CTL. These should be aimed at establishing whether PQ really gets into the brain by the systemic route and be focussed on strengthening our position to provide robust rebuttals to the current crop of literature papers.

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Any studies which are undertaken must provide data which can be published following normal business approval procedures. A cautious, considered approach is absolutely necessary. The Business asked that they be regularly updated and consulted once an agreed programme had started. The size of any programme would have to be considered. The primary test species should, probably, be the rat but work in other species might be necessary. A potential investigation of the effects productd by MPTP, MPP⁺ and PQ, in the same laboratory was considered attractive. A step-wise programme over the next two years was seen as the best way forward.

EAL/MS/RCS were asked to prepare a research proposal for consideration with the Business in the near future (end March/beg April).

R C Scott
Paraquat Product Manager

Att: Agenda

Circ: Those Present
A Cook, RAD

(RCS/WPS/FKM)
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