

# TCOM

August 29, 1984

Administrator DEA  
1405 I Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20537

Attn: DEA Federal Register Representative

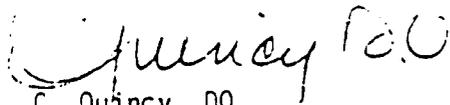
Dear Sirs:

I am a general internist with a specialty practice in geriatric medicine. Because a large number of patients in my practice present with deficits of memory or other cognitive impairments, I try to keep up with the literature in neuropharmacology, and I have been particularly interested in substances that appear to be active in relation to creative thinking, central nervous system processing, memory and learning. It has recently come to my attention that a drug known as MDMA may have activity in some of these areas. I have reviewed some of the literature relating to this drug, and while it appears that because of physiologic side effects it may not be appropriate for the elderly population with cardiovascular disease, it or yet to be discovered analogs of this compound may be very interestingly active in the treatment of learning and memory disorders.

It is particularly interesting to me in that it appears to have colenergic nervous system activity, and this system is presently implicated as being impaired in subjects with alzheimer's disease. The discovery of a compound that would be active in patients with this severely dementing illness would indeed be a breakthrough. While MDMA may not be that drug, it certainly may lead to further research along lines that may give us chemical help in treating this devastating disease of aging.

I am sure other researchers have other interests as far as this compound is concerned, and I respectfully add my voice to those asking that MDMA continue to be available for appropriate scientific investigations as to its uses in medicine. Thank you.

Sincerely,



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and Preventive Medicine  
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