DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGIC DRUGS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WITH THE PEDIATRIC SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE ANTI-INFECTIVE DRUGS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 2, 2004

8:00 a.m.

Holiday Inn Bethesda
Versailles I and II
8120 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland

PARTICIPANTS
looking at changed scores on a handful of a
priori-defined symptoms from the rating scales
would be very helpful.

   DR. GOODMAN: Along those lines, as I
mentioned earlier, the Hamilton has an item on
agitation, the CDRS has an item on irritability, so
that could be a first quick look, and you wouldn't
have to look at treatment emergent, you can look at
rating scale items.

   I agree that one needs to give careful
thought into what symptoms or how we are describing
this constellation of symptoms, because it could be
very problematic.

   For one reason, a number of symptoms you
would expect to get better with the SSRIs, and what
we are really looking for is a minority of patients
in whom you see a paradoxical increase in those
symptoms.

   So, I think we need to take a very careful
approach to this analysis.

   DR. RUDORFER: We have four more questions.
on this topic.

   I am sorry. Dr. Laughren.

   DR. LAUGHLREN: Just one follow up on a
suggestion that has come up from several committee
members now about looking at items from the rating scales. That was actually done here, and it turned out not to be very helpful.

Now, this was a similar analysis that had been done with the adult data years ago, for example, looking at patients who move from looking at the suicide item on the HAM-D and looking at patients who move from zero to 1 to a 3 or 4.

That did not detect a signal in these trials, and part of the problem may have been that these events often did not occur at a time when the HAM-D would be done, because the HAM-D is done at regular intervals.

If the event occurs between visits, which it almost always does, and then the patient is discontinued at that point, you never get a HAM-D or whatever other instrument is being used.

So, companies did try that approach, and it was not particularly productive.

DR. RUDORFER: We are now going to turn to Drs. Malone, McGough, Pfeffer, and Ortiz, and then move on to Question 2 more specifically.

DR. MALONE: I am sorry, I just stepped out, so I may have missed things that were just discussed, but I was thinking that looking at