



## THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Thomas R. Browne
Department of Neurology
VA Hospital
150 South Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 01230

Dear Dr. Browne:

Thank you for the review of clonazepam that appeared in the October 12th issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

I noticed your remark that a large part of the nitro material is reduced to the 7-amino compound. Does this occur as readily with parenterally administered drugs as per os? Is there any specific information on the organ responsible for this reduction?

Finally, in view of the potential for aromatic amines to become hydroxylaminated to derivatives that often have mutagenic and perhaps carcinogenic activity I wonder if there has been a specific search for these effects with this drug. I am not suggesting that such findings would influence one's conclusion about the risk benefit equation but am simply inquiring about the availability of this information.

Yours sincerely

oshua Lederberg