

B/L fr USAF SAM, dtd 23 Dec 52, subj: Procurement of Experimental subjects.

AFCSG-15

2nd Ind.

Department of the Air Force, Hq. USAF., Washington 25, D. C. 16 FEB 1953

TO: Commanding General, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

1. Request this Headquarters be supplied information as to why it is considered necessary to conduct toxicity studies on Primaquine and Daraprim in the Caribbean Air Command.

2. It is not considered necessary that toxicity studies be conducted in an endemic malarious area upon individuals being treated for malaria with these drugs. Such studies may be conducted at a place having facilities for the study of individuals at various altitudes. The USAF School of Aviation Medicine, both at Randolph and Gunter, has the necessary physical facilities and personnel to conduct such studies to determine the toxicity of drugs at altitude. It is therefore suggested that volunteers from the officer and enlisted student groups be utilized in this test.

3. Determination of the toxicity of Primaquine at altitude is urgently needed at this time. Toxicity studies conducted by civilian and Army investigators indicate that this drug is well tolerated at ground level in the presently recommended therapeutic dosages. Clinical studies have shown that Primaquine in combination with Chloroquine are the drugs of choice in therapy of malaria. The pharmacological action of this drug is such that increased toxicity may occur at altitude. The Office of the Surgeon General is withholding revised directions for the therapy of malaria awaiting the determination of the effects of this drug upon flying personnel.

4. Approximately one year ago a procedure was instituted to prevent the occurrence of clinical malaria in the United States among individuals infected in Korea. All individuals returning from Korea by water transportation have received 15 mg. Primaquine daily for twelve (12) days. This procedure has been incomplete since it has not been applied to those individuals returning by air, and because of the lack of knowledge of the toxicity of Primaquine at altitude. The Army and Navy and U. S. Public Health Service have anxiously awaited the results of the toxicity studies being conducted by the Air Force so that approximately 25 per cent of the total Korean returnees by air might have the benefit of this therapeutic procedure.

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5. It is suggested that studies on Daraprim be deferred until complete reports are available from the National Research Council.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Earl Maxwell

EARL MAXWELL
Brigadier General, USAF (MC)
Director of Professional Services
Office of the Surgeon General

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3d Ind

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HEADQUARTERS, AIR UNIVERSITY, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 26 FEB 1953

TO: Commandant, USAF School of Aviation Medicine, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas

We invite your attention to 2d Indorsement.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL EDWARDS:

R. E. Barr

R. E. BARR
Major, USAF
Adjutant General

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