

(*Journal*, February 1984, **144**, 203–8) in managing opiate withdrawal.

In the light of their results, it may be useful considering a further study combining electro-stimulation (ES) and methadone withdrawal (MW). The use of MW would avoid the severe initial withdrawal effects noted in the ES group. The use of ES in the latter phases of the MW (say the last 10 days) might avoid the prolonged withdrawal effects noted in the MW group (but not in the ES group). The original groups used in the study could serve as comparisons. It may not be a question of either/or but both.

E. P. LARKIN

*Rampton Hospital,
Retford,
Nottinghamshire*

WITHDRAWAL OF BENZTROPINE IN CHRONIC SCHIZOPHRENICS

DEAR SIR,

The results of the interesting study by Linda A. Baker and colleagues (*Journal*, **143**, 584–90) do not appear to be complete. The patients were tested on three occasions—before withdrawal, and at 2 and 4 weeks later—but only 2 sets of data for each group are given in Table II, and it is not clear whether “retest” refers to the 2 or 4 week session.

A. A. SCHIFF

*Senior Medical Adviser,
E. R. Squibb and Sons Ltd,
141–149 Staines Road,
Hounslow, TW3 3JA*

Dr Baker and colleagues reply

Dr Schiff states that some of the data from our study “the withdrawal of benztropine mesylate in chronic schizophrenic patients” appear to be missing since patients were tested on three occasions but data from only two sessions were included in Table II. It was stated quite clearly in our article that two weeks after initial testing, “all measurements *except those involving memory and attention were repeated*. The complete set of tests and ratings was readministered four weeks after the initial assessments”. Retest results in Table II for the Wechsler Memory Scale therefore refer to four weeks after the first testing. Results from other tests repeated at both two- and four-week periods are discussed in the article, but were for the most part nonsignificant and were therefore not reproduced in tabular form in order to save *Journal* space.

LINDA A. BAKER
L. Y. CHENG
I. B. AMARA

*Kingston Psychiatric Hospital,
Kingston,
Ontario K7L 4X3*

GREMLINS AT NORTHWICK PARK—CORRECTION DEAR SIR,

The authors of the Northwick Park ECT trial (*Journal*, March 1984, **144**, 227–37) have referred in the text and list of references to my paper on ‘Atypicality and the depressive state’ published in the *Journal of Mental Science* in 1950. In doing so they have quoted me with a co-author ‘GLAS, M. B.’ I had no such co-author when writing this paper, as the heading and acknowledgements indicate. ‘M. B. Glas.’ was my medical qualification at the time the paper was written.

HUGH F. JARVIE