

From: Dr. Arthur Grollman  
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2002 12:10 PM  
To: masten@niehs.nih.gov  
Subject: Testing program

Dear Mr Masten,

I noted that you have included ephedrine alkaloid dietary supplements in the recently announced nominations. This is an excellent idea and I would join the many academic clinical pharmacologists who would like to see a careful study done on these powerful substances.

I am writing an article for New Eng J Med on the general subject of toxicity of herbal medicines and would like to learn more about what is planned in the current testing program and the general timetable for results.

I serve on NIEHS Council of Advisors and will be at NIEHS on Monday, August 12 to review the Laboratory of Toxicology. Although Ken Olden keeps us busy, I am sure I could break away if you are around that day and could find a few minutes to discuss this subject informally with me. I would also be interested in knowing what other botanicals have been tested in the past in the program (possibly aristolochic acid?) but my current focus is on what you plan to do with ephedra, in particular, how you plan to get samples since this is highly variable.

Thanks in advance for your help.

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p. s. Linda Smith in the Director's office arranges our schedule for the day