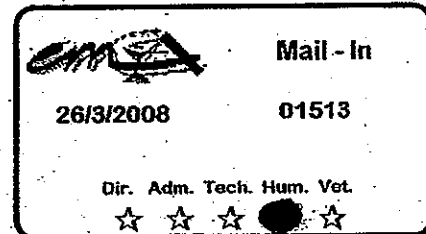




EUROPEAN COMMISSION
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Consumer goods
Pharmaceuticals

Brussels, 19 MARS 2008
ENTR F2/SM/ag.D(2008) 8339



Subject: Efficacy of antidepressants

Dear Mr Wathion,

At the end of last month, the publication of the study "Initial Severity and Antidepressant Benefits: A Meta-Analysis of Data Submitted to the Food and Drug Administration", conducted by researchers in the United Kingdom, United States and Canada, raised strong media and public attention.

According to the study, the analysis of published and unpublished trials of modern antidepressants, including Prozac and Seroxat, show they offer no clinically significant improvement over placebos in most patients.

I would appreciate to receive the EMEA's opinion on the published study, on the basis of which the Commission will consider whether any action is necessary at Community level.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Terberger
Head of Unit

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