

You are the editor of a scientific journal in the field of abnormal psychology. A paper recently submitted to your journal to be considered for publication reports the results of studies conducted at UCLA a decade ago involving schizophrenic patients as subjects. The results are interesting and valuable from a scientific standpoint. You happen to know, however, that after the research was completed, an investigation, conducted by the Office for the Protection from Research Risks of the National Institute of Health found that the subjects had not been adequately informed of the risks associated with the research. The study, which involved giving medication to fifty patients, and then withdrawing it, resulted in twenty three patients suffering severe relapses. One of these patients committed suicide, and another tried to kill his mother. The investigation concluded that the UCLA scientists conducting the study failed to inform the subjects of the danger of serious relapse. The paper submitted to your journal makes no mention of the finding of the investigation.

As journal editor what should you do in this situation, and why?

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