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(JIGSAW NEWS AND FLASHES OF LIFE

(BALTIMORE)--THE IDEA THAT ANY OLD PILL WILL HELP SOME PEOPLE HAS GOT A NEW TWIST. TWO JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICAL SCHOOL PSYCHIATRISTS GAVE PILLS CONTAINING ONLY SUGAR TO 15 PATIENTS CLASSIFIED AS NEUROTICS WITH SIGNS OF ANXIETY. AND, DOCTORS LEE PARK AND LINO COVI TOLD THE PATIENTS EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE GETTING. ONE WEEK LATER THE PATIENTS REPORTED BACK AND 14 SAID THE PILLS HAD HELPED THEM. FOUR OF THEM INSISTED THE PILLS WERE THE MOST EFFECTIVE EVER PRESCRIBED FOR THEM. THE 15TH PATIENT QUIT THE CURE BECAUSE HER HUSBAND MADE FUN OF HER FOR WASTING HER MONEY ON SUGAR PILLS.