

S1 Table

Initial codes and their relation to research questions

Initial codes	Research questions
I Time. When was/were the trial/trials conducted?	1
II Aims. What was/were the aim/aims of the trial(s)?	1, 2
III Consent. What did patients know about tests?	1, 2, 3
IV Role of Institutions involved (in German: BAR/BBA, ZGA, IfAR, clinics, Ministry of Health) and their employees	1, 2
V Financial aspects and role of Ministry of Foreign Trade, "KoKo" department	1, 2
VI Illegal drug tests	1, 2, 3
VII Observation of Western companies and their employees	2, 3
VIII Information on doctors, medical and administrative staff involved	2, 3
IX Internal Stasi assessment, political and ethical aspects	1, 2

1=research question 1 "Which new insights do the documents of the MfS provide?",
2=research question 2 "What were the reasons of the MfS to keep clinical trials of Western pharmaceutical firms in the GDR under secret observation?", 3= Research question 3 "How were GDR doctors involved in the Stasi observations?"