

2: Letters



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Mr. Marty Madison
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Dear Mr. Madison,

Thank you for sending me the DHEW announcement in the *Federal Register* regarding the FDA classification of Cranial Electrotherapy Stimulators. Yes, these devices are the same as we assessed in the early 1960s. It was the reports of R.B. Smith in the 1980s that led the U.S. Army physicians to examine the advisability of reimbursing CHAMPUS personnel for such treatments that led to my review.

My library contains two volumes which cite such research.

Reynolds DV, Sjoberg AE (Eds.): *Neuroelectric Research: Electrostimulation, Electroanesthesia and Nonconvulsive Electrotherapy*. C.C Thomas, Springfield, 1971, 466 pp.

Wulfsohn NL, Sances A. (Eds.): *The Nervous System and Electric Currents*, Plenum Press, New York, 1971, 171 pp.

Another set of data can be found in the literature of convulsive therapy under the term 'subconvulsive shock' or 'nonconvulsive electric stimulation' or 'electrosleep'. A good source for such experience is to be found in two old texts:

Alexander L: *Treatment of Mental Disorder*. W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 1953, 507 pp.

Kalinowsky L, Hoch P: *Somatic Treatments in Psychiatry*, Grune & Stratton, New York, 1961 [or earlier editions].

I would like to read your report when it is published. Thank you for keeping me informed.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
and Neurology

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