

December 12, 1990

Walter Sannita, M.D.
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Dear Walter,

First, congratulations on obtaining support for a stay in the U.S. I hope that we can work out an arrangement that will be useful for you.

I need more details, such as the proposed dates and duration of the stay; your expectations and needs; and projects you may wish to investigate. If a study has a clinical component, approval must be obtained from the appropriate committees, and that may take up to four months, so any work done in advance is critical. Separately, I will send you copies of ongoing protocols as examples of what may be of interest.

I have a young Israeli psychologist/Fellow working in the laboratory, and a senior resident has asked to work with me later in the year. The Fellow is interested in ECT; the resident is spending two months with Itil learning the HZI system. Perhaps the three of you (and a technician and our equipment) could answer some interesting questions.

I have no problem with the presentation at the AACNP, but neither your letter nor that from Bodis-Wollner give the specific dates. When?

I have received an unusual letter in Italian from a Roman psychiatrist in response to a paper that I wrote last year for an Italian audience. I asked one of my residents to translate it, and it seems to relate a pathetic story about a criminal indictment for a death associated with ECT. Because the details are critical, I would be grateful if you would provide a valid translation so that I can understand the nuances of the events. Also, can you advise me whether a reply is warranted or expected? Is Dr. Gherardini asking (implicitly) for help or advice? Do you know of him, or can you obtain an opinion as to his status in his community?

My regards to Titty and your daughters (I assume you plan to bring all to New York?)

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry