

June 22, 1979

Dr. Barend ter Haar  
Trends in Neurosciences  
Elsevier/North Holland  
Cambridge CB2 1DB U.K.

Dear Dr. ter Haar,

Following the receipt of your detailed letter of June 12 regarding the review of the manuscript, "ECT, Mood and Hormones", I went through the text with the comments of the reviewers in mind. To minimally document the facts in the article, and to allow for the separation from speculation, will require about 80 citations. In writing the report and submitting it initially, I was mindful of the instruction regarding referencing: "Since TINS is primarily intended as a newspaper for the neurosciences, only a limited number of references should appear in the text." . . . of up to 10 titles in alphabetical order. . . " For this reason, I cited my book so frequently, since it is in that volume, of 308 pages and more than 1000 citations, that complete referncing is available.

I think it would be unfortunate to withdraw the article since I believe it does follow the spirit and the interest reflected in the earlier reports by Crow and Johnstone and by Green. The decision to accept is yours, but if you wish to include the article for your readers interest, I am prepared to re-submit with an extended citation list and with some clarification as to observations and speculation. I am not sure that such is indeed necessary, and I wonder if the reviewers' comments do not reflect their difficulty in making the jump from their preconceptions regarding ECT. The present views may in time be proved wrong, but they have as much, if not more evidence in their support than other theories of the mode of action of ECT. Perhaps they deserve the opportunity to appear in your press, at the least for the response they seem to engender.

I can re-submit the article with extended or with limited citations within a few days of your reply.

My thanks for your review.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry