

December 9, 1969

Dr. Alexander G. Karczmar
Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics
Loyola University, Stritch School of Medicine
Hines, Illinois

Dear Alex,

Thank you very much for the project outline which we received in time. Dr. Martin Katz was here yesterday and seemed sympathetic to the suggestion that we expand our ECT study program. However, he indicated that if at all possible we go through the initial steps of demonstrating the feasibility of shipping fluids and having them analyzed in Chicago.

Dick Abrams and I found our discussions very useful and would like to carry out some initial steps before applying for a definitive project. It would be useful to go through the step of collecting spinal fluid in New York, shipping it to you in Chicago and asking for some preliminary assays, particularly for assays of such substances that could be done in New York as well, to determine if shipping is feasible. Is this step necessary - and if so, we would like to do so. How?

We would like to attempt some spinal taps in the next few patients at our hospital and see whether this is feasible.

If the fluids are available and shipping is feasible, we can then proceed with the application. In the meantime we will write up the literature review and theory.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kp

P.S. At a meeting in Mexico City Dr. Aprison described some new techniques for acetylcholine determination, citing Lincoln Potter, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 1968-69 and Feigelson and Salean, *Biochem. Pharmacol.*, 1968. Perhaps these are useful.