

73I-640

April 25, 1973

Arthur Cherkin, Ph.D.,
Psychobiology Research Laboratory,
V.A. Hospital,
Sepulveda, California 91343.

Dear Art,

I received your letter just as I was signing the enclosed letter to go to all the participants in the conference. I think it will answer your question regarding the publication.

I am not at all surprised that NIMH has reacted as they have with regard to your grant application. I am sure it is no consolation, but Walter Essman and Richard Abrams who also submitted applications as a result of the stimulation of our conference, also have had approvals without funding. Somehow one reacts with more feeling about such a response than one does to a rejection.

I would not know of the specific reference to the work of Dr. Vaughan, although I do know him personally. I am writing to him to ask for the citations so that I may try to understand the relevance of his observations to clinical convulsive therapy. You may be pleased to know that just a few days before your letter I was invited by the editor of the journal *Biological Psychiatry* to submit an editorial on a matter of my choosing. The editorial is "How Shocking is Shock Therapy?" and attempts to bring to the attention of the readers the unusual consequences of our language, particularly when the phrase "shock therapy" is used.

It is always a pleasure to hear from you.

My best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Executive Director

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Enc.