

April 16, 1984

Jeffrey Lieberman, M.D.  
Department of Psychiatry  
LIJ-Hillside Medical Center  
75-59 263 Street  
Glen Oaks, New York 11004

Dear Jeffrey,

It was kind of you to give me a copy of "Blue Jolts". I am collecting books about convulsive therapy, and I have been seeking this book for a few months, without success.

Enclosed is a copy of my book on ECT. There is a chapter on a 'theory' of its mode of antidepressant action. A year later, after some consultations with Jan-Otto Ottosson, we decided to put this theory forth in a more structured fashion. One of my associates, Yiannis Papakostas did a fine job with an initial study of the DST in ECT. Both reprints are enclosed. The Papakostas' findings have been supported by some additional studies since 1981, and I believe them to be essentially correct today.

Hence, my interest in neuroendocrine studies. We are collecting CSF and blood samples in patients undergoing ECT, with two taps for each patient. The samples will be assayed for different peptides, and perhaps we will find some support for these ideas.

Before I left Hillside, John said that you were in charge of neuroscience seminars held each month in the Department. If you will send me a notice, I will do my best to attend those that I can.

My regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry