

February 23, 1971

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Dear Ed,

We were pleased to receive your review of the biochemical possibilities in CSF studies in ECT. It may be obstinacy, but the primary problem is acetylcholine, not the cholinesterases. That the leech muscle is insensitive is a severe barrier, and these studies will then have to wait the refinement of methods. The studies and theories of epinephrine, norepinephrine and serotonin in psychiatry received their heavensent thrust from the chemical description of means of measurement, not from a theoretic model. Hopefully, the same will follow when a new method for ACH is developed.

Many thanks for your frank discussion.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry

MF:kt