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April 21, 1978

Stuart Keill, M.D.  
NCMC  
East Meadow, New York

Dear Stu,

Enclosed is a draft copy of a section of the forthcoming APA Task Force report on ECT. It is the more interesting section for me as it spells out what we know and what is hypothesized. The latter provides the basis for testing.

There are two advantages for setting up an ECT project-- the fun of doing the research and the upgrading of the treatment process, since research will require supervision of the actual treatments, monitoring of the seizures, etc. At the moment, I have interested John Lee who is in charge of unit 42 at Northport VA to set up a predictor study. The protocol will be useful at NCMC as well.

I have also interested Andy Don at Huntington to look at the protocol. I believe that we could set up a good program, with collaboration between the three institutions, if you are willing to participate. Is there someone on your staff who is at all interested? If not, could you arrange for John Lee, were he to make the formal application, to work at your center on a part-time basis? (At no immediate cost, since he is LIRI funded; if and when we get grant funds, he would be entitled to some additional support unless you had someone on your staff who would take over at that time.)

Stan is willing to consider Dr. Dornbush for you, but he told me today that he is strapped for funds. How the commitment can be met is unclear to me, but I asked Dr. Dornbush to write to you and if you do like her credentials, see her, and if you still like her, I am confident that she could organize and work through the ECT project at NCMC (as well as others).

Those are my present ideas. Call me when next you expect to be at the University and visit with me. (Incidentally, my book on ECT is almost complete; it should go to the publisher by mid-June. It will be a definitive study of "Convulsive Therapy- Theory and Practice" and should be most supportive of any application from SBB.)

My regards.

Sincerely yours,