

F. Luce's

April 9, 1979

Mr. Glen Roass
Box 5522 Duke Station
Durham, NC 27706

Dear Mr. Ross,

Your letter concerning ECT was just received, having been sent to my former University.

The best source of demographic data concerning ECT may be found in two recently published volumes--- one is the report of the Task Force of THE American Psychiatric Association Report # 14, dated November 1978; and the second is a volume, "Convulsive Therapy: Theory and Practice" which I published in February, 1979 (Raven Press, New York). In both, you will find the latest survey data summarized. These should be available in the medical school library.

For earlier reports, you will find the full citation in my book. There was at ~~time~~ in the 1950's, when ECT was given to patients in the lower social classes in a greater degree than to upper class patients. That situation is clearly reversed today, with almost all EDT being given to upper class patients who attend private or University hospitals. Practically none is given in state, municipal and V.A. hospitals, where the largest concentration of lower class mentally ill can be expected to be found.

Good luck.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry