

J. Letters

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Dear Professor Wang:

It is not clear to me why you have sent the outline that you did, insofar as your report is too cursory for experienced investigators and too condensed for the uninitiated.

With regard to your specific question as to whether the data reported disagreed with our current findings, I would state that we have insufficient experience with desipramine or nortriptyline to judge the validity of your recommendations.

However, the concept of antidepressant drugs as outlined by your table leaves out an important group of compounds, namely the phenothiazines. Their efficacy in the treatment of depressive disorders is well documented now, as is the merit of combinations of drugs such as chlorpromazine and imipramine. I am enclosing a copy of a recent report concerning the role of phenothiazines in depressive disorders, and also suggest that you read the report by Drs. Hollister and Overall which appeared in the JAMA late in 1964 on the same subject.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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