

*J. Lellein  
Tsuang*

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Ming T. Tsuang, M.D.  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, Iowa

Dear Ming,

Thank you for letting me read the report on death and suicide in schizoaffective patients. It is an important contribution to our growing awareness that ECT may have some long-term effects on behavior and death rates. Most impressive, is the careful follow-up and the contribution to our assessment of schizoaffective disorders. I interpret the finding as another clue to the inclusion of schizoaffective disorders under the rubric of depressive disorders, and not schizophrenia.

I look forward to the succeeding reports cited in the article.

Good luck in your year in England. I hope that you will have some opportunity to consult with those scientists assessing the effects of ECT in Britain. Apparently, the Royal College has received a grant to assess the long-term effects of ECT and your skills would surely be helpful.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry