

July 25, 1991

Jacques M. Quen, M.D.
New York State Psychiatric Association
200 Garden City Plaza
New York City 11530

Dear Dr. Quen,

I responded to your letter of July 11 and wrote to my Congressmen and Senators.

I am interested in the guidelines for electroconvulsive therapy. Would it be possible for your office to abstract the relevant RBRVS recommended schedules for ECT, as well as anesthesia for ECT, and send these to me?

Recently, I wrote to Harvey Bluestone about the unavailability of ECT for patients at Kings Park and Rockland Psychiatric Centers, and that their patients were being treated at University Hospital. He wrote that my note to him was sent to you for consideration. Dr. Oldham of OMH appointed a committee two years ago to consider ECT in OMH hospitals; the committee under Dr. Russakoff surveyed the practice (and probably found it wanting). The report has not been made public, nor has OMH taken any action to rectify a defined lack of services. Perhaps the matter deserves consideration by the Association?

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry