

November 13, 1973

Carl Salzman, M.D.  
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74 Fenwood Road  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Dear Carl,

I have read the draft of the clinical report on electroconvulsive therapy and have made a few marginal notes. The principal omission may be in the use and application of flurothyl -- or, is that subject included in another chapter? For a practical manual, such an inclusion may be helpful.

The location of electrodes is difficult to define from the text. Perhaps you would care to include a figure, similar to one used by Abrams in a manual he and I produced some years ago.

My only hesitation in reading the article came from your note suggesting philosophic differences. Except for the editorializing on page 1-2, there is no disagreement as to content, application, etc. Perhaps an examination of the usual ambivalence towards ECT which the introduction reflects could be undertaken by Dick Shader and yourself, and I am confident that you will arrive at a more tutorial, professorial, attitude, suggesting perhaps that in the absence of a more elegant method of symptom relief for severe depressions, the success rate and the cost/benefit ratio of ECT clearly suggest its continued use.

Good luck in your volume. I trust I will see you in California next month.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry