

December 30, 1985

Samuel Gershon, M.D.
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Dear Sam,

It was fun being with you and Lisl in Maui. We trust your visits to Australia were as pleasant as the days in Hawaii. Let's get together when next you spend some days with Bernard in New York.

I did attend the session at which Bob Friedel presented his data on the greater efficacy of the combination of thiothixene and ECT than thiothixene alone in 'therapy-resistant' schizophrenic patients. The first question was asked by Seymour Kety and Bob answered that a possible mechanism of action was greater penetrance of thiothixene because ECT induces a reduction in the integrity of the blood-brain barrier.

The principal studies of blood brain barrier and seizures are cited in the attached list and in the three abstracts which I enclose. The principal scientist behind recent studies is Thomas Bolwig, M.D.(Psychochemistry Institute, Rigshospitalet, 9, Blegdamsvej, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark). He is an old friend and I am confident that he will answer any inquiries directly.

Following your suggestion, I would be very much interested in a well designed and controlled examination of this hypothesis in animals. The findings are clearly publishable, and CONVULSIVE THERAPY is clearly interested in the findings.

My best wishes for the continued success of the Lafayette Clinic, and my best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.