

November 5, 1977

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Dear John,

I was glad to hear of the work of J.G. Kennedy. I had not known of it, and suggested the study only because I had been encouraged in it by Dr. Krikorian. Obviously, Kennedy is a better source of the latest information on qat. (Incidentally, do you think I can use 'QAT' in scrabble ?)

Your analysis of the Chopra and Knight data is excellent. From these reviews I still believe the question of what they were describing is active and their samples should be re-examined. I do not know what NIDA would do with an application now, but they are obliged to respond to every formal request for funding. From my past experience, a visit to Steve Szara and some of his co-workers is a must before a study is contemplated overseas since the funding will have to be of a contract form. It will provide a way to catch up on the latest studies and to find out what is in the pipeline (like the study of Kennedy). If you can visit Washington, do so. Or, is it possible that you may attend the next meeting of the ACNP in Puerto Rico (December 13-16), when it is likely that Szara and his staff will be present ?

I know of the ocualr tracking test only what is popularly known from the literature. Don Klein asked for a small grant from Stony Brook in 1975 to get the equipment to do a study. Perhaps he is up-to-date on the findings. However, it is unlikely that a new test could be a definitive basis for a discrimination, until at least there is a large body of acceptable data in known schizophrenics, and this I think is lacking.

I have no trip West scheduled ahead of me now, so I hope we can get together when you have an excuse to come East. Let's make it soon.

My best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry