

March 24, 1986

Henry B. Murphree, M.D.  
Department of Psychiatry  
Rutgers Medical School  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854

Dear Henry,

I am writing this letter in support of the promotion of Dr. Helen M. Pettinati to the rank of Adjunct Associate Professor at the Rutgers Medical School. I have known Helen for a few years, first becoming acquainted with her studies of ECT when she reported assessments of the differential effects of electrode location on the efficacy and side-effects of ECT, and the lack of effect of dexamethasone on ECT induced cognitive impairment.

Her work has been excellent. She has carried out careful and well designed parametric studies. The reports reflect meticulous attention to case selection, treatment, and statistical assessment. I liked her work sufficiently, that when I was inviting scientists as associate editors of the new journal, CONVULSIVE THERAPY, I invited her and am pleased that she has joined the Board.

She is an excellent reviewer, and recently she organized and reported an assessment of the characteristics of two new ECT instruments (CONVULSIVE THERAPY 2: 43-54, 1986). I think the evaluation is fair and very useful. She also has reported an interesting meta-analysis of the studies of unilateral and bilateral ECT.

She is a delightful person, and apparently well liked by her co-workers. She lectures well. It is a pleasure to recommend her promotion.

My regards.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.  
Professor of Psychiatry