

November 6, 1964

Dear Dr. Nathan:

Thank you for your recent letter which I have brought to the attention of my associates. We would be pleased to have you join the Institute and it is our recommendation that you work with me in the study programs dedicated to modifying the behavior of the severe mentally ill. While the role of drug therapy in the management of such severely ill patients is under study, we are fully cognizant of the need for intensive milieu, psychological and social therapies. The psychological management of these patients is a challenge and while it is more difficult and more complex than the management of ambulatory out-patients, the basic psychological mechanisms are as important in these patients as they are in the mild mentally ill.

It would not be consistent with our present programs to provide a dual assignment, which is implied in your question regarding "three or four patients that I could see in out-patient clinic". However, all of our patients following discharge are in our own after care unit and I would be pleased to have you supervise and participate in that program.

However, there is a place for your psychodynamic interests and Dr. G. Ulett recommended that we allocate a portion of your time to the supervision and teaching of our residents. We would be pleased to provide an opportunity for you to supervise resident physicians in the care of their patients and in the resolution of their interpersonal difficulties, either within the Institute or within the general hospital. The rewards of such supervision are usually great, and provide a successful avenue for the expression of psychological interests.

I look forward to having you join us.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Director

mf/lb
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