

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

Department of Psychiatry

JAY D. AMSTERDAM, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Address Correspondence:
Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania
36th and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104

June 29, 1984

Bernard Carroll, M.D.- Chairman
Department of Psychiatry
Duke University Medical Center
P. O. Box #3950
Durham, N.C. 27710

Dear Barney:

It was a pleasure hearing from you earlier this month, and I am looking forward to my upcoming visit to Durham.

As you requested during our phone conversation, I am sending you a recent copy of my curriculum vitae which I hope will give you some indication of my work and interests. As you will no doubt notice from both my publications and present job description, my interests are quite varied and not limited to one particular subspecialty of affective disorders research.

For example, one of my primary interests has been in the area of neuroendocrinology and, as you no doubt know, I have maintained an extremely close collaboration with Andrew Winokur. We have been performing a variety of neuroendocrine provocative tests in depressed patients and healthy controls. Additionally, we have been attempting to develop some new endocrine test procedures which might be more informative in identifying potential alterations in specific neurotransmitter function in depression.

One of my more recent interests has been directed toward trying to define a possible peripheral abnormality in endocrine function which might account for some of the hormonal findings in the HPA and HPS axes. To this end, I have been employing the ACTH stimulation test to evaluate adrenal cortex activation; structured glucose tolerance testing to assess some of the hormones involved in carbohydrate metabolism; specialized gustatory and olfactory tests to assess subtle changes in taste and odor perception; clonidine infusions to assess not only hormonal response, but possible changes in peripheral adrenergic receptor sensitivity; as well as other interesting test paradigms. For the last two years, I have also been working closely with Alan Frazer at the V.A. Hospital on alterations in melatonin metabolism in depression.

In addition, I have maintained a very active interest in psychopharmacology, primarily involving the antidepressant compounds. I have worked closely with David Brunswick at the V. A. Hospital on a variety of clinical pharmacokinetic drug studies of tricyclic antidepressants, measuring plasma levels of these compounds and their metabolites. As director of the Depression Research Unit at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, I have collaborated with Karl Rickels, performing numerous outpatient clinical trials with a variety of second generation antidepressants. As I mentioned previously, not only have these studies been the main source of income for the Depression Unit, but even more importantly bring in about 150 new research patients each year for our more basic research work.

As a spin-off of my work on the Depression Unit, I have been running a lithium/renal research clinic for the past three years. This involves a prospective evaluation of potential renal toxic effects of lithium, and is to my knowledge, the only prospective study of such a nature.

I have been quite active in all of these projects, while at the same time serving as administrator of a busy clinical research facility. It has been a difficult but challenging job for me, especially given the climate in the Department of Psychiatry over the past few years.

With Dr Whybrow starting as the new Department Chairman, there does seem to be some exciting change in the wind. Exactly how this is going to affect me is still difficult to understand. Therefore, I do think it would be beneficial for me to come and visit your new Department and have the opportunity to meet and talk with you. I certainly appreciate your kind invitation.

I hope the brief description of my activities at Penn gives you some idea of my interests and goals for the future. I am looking forward to seeing you very soon.

With best wishes;



Jay D. Amsterdam, M.D.
Director - Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania

JDA/lp
encl 2

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

Department of Psychiatry

JAY D. AMSTERDAM, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Address Correspondence:
Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania
36th and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104

July 17, 1984

Ms Betty Connelly - Secretary to
the Chairman of the Department
of Psychiatry
Duke University Medical Center
P. O. Box #3950
Durham, N. C. 27710

Dear Ms Connelly:

Please find enclosed a copy of my airline ticket from Philadelphia to Durham totalling \$119.00 one way. As I mentioned to you during my visit, I did not return directly to Philadelphia from Durham, but continued on to Toronto.

Therefore I think it would be easiest if you could simply reimburse me the \$119.00 plus the cost of a return ticket from Durham to Philadelphia, as the remainder of my trip will be paid for from other sources. I think that I gave you my limosine receipt when I was in your office. I will take care of the other travel expenses incurred after leaving Durham.

Thank you once again for all of your assistance in helping me to book my flights, and in making my visit to Duke a pleasant experience.

Sincerely,



Jay D. Amsterdam, M.D.
Director, Depression Research Unit

FAIR VIRGINIA
 AIRLINE FORM SERIAL NUMBER
585 4200 134200
PILOT AIR VIRGINIA

ASSUMED TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK
 (NON-TRANSFERABLE)
 (NON-EXCHANGEABLE)
 (NON-REFUNDABLE)
 (NON-REISSUABLE)

ISSUED IN EXCHANGE FOR **11 JUNE 64**

ORIGINATOR'S NAME **Philadelphia**

TO **Roanoke**

FROM **Philadelphia**

FARE BASIS **K** **CARRIER** **VE** **FARE** **119.00**

DATE **JUL 10 1964** **TIME** **10 P** **STATUS** **OK**

DATE **JUL 12 1964** **TIME** **12 P** **STATUS** **OK**

FARE **119.00**

TAX **8.81**

TOTAL **127.81**

FORM OF PAYMENT **Check**

DATE AND PLACE OF ISSUE

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

Department of Psychiatry

JAY D. AMSTERDAM, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Address Correspondence:
Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania
36th and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104

July 30, 1984

Bernard Carroll, M.D. - Chairman
Department of Psychiatry
Duke University Medical Center
P.O. Box #3950
Durham, N.C. 27710

Dear Barney:

It was certainly a pleasure visiting Durham earlier this month. Everyone I met was very friendly toward me and made me feel quite comfortable. I am confident that you know how grateful I am for the kind invitation you extended to visit Duke, and the opportunity to talk candidly with you and your staff.

I was very impressed with the laboratory facilities within the Department, particularly since the work currently being performed fits in so well with my personal research interests. I felt very comfortable discussing my interests in endocrinology with Jim Ritchie and Charley Nemeroff; and I was delighted to have the opportunity to chat with Dr Kilts about pharmacokinetics and plasma drug level monitoring. All of these investigators seemed eager to maintain a close collaboration with the clinical arm of psychiatric research.

Because my visit was so brief (holidays, endocrine meetings in Vienna, etc) I was unable to look over the clinical facilities or to get a very clear idea of how the wards function as a potential resource for clinical research material. However, the clinicians I did have the pleasure of meeting with (Dr. Ellinwood, Dr. Davidson, and Dr Taska) expressed a good bit of interest in psychopharmacology research.

Overall, I felt that my "fact finding" visit was a very positive experience. Your support for building an outpatient affective disorders research facility is very encouraging. As I mentioned during our conversation, if such a unit were based upon the model of the Depression Research Unit at Penn, not only would this clinic eventually generate its own income and research projects, but would also serve as a vertical referral source for Peter's inpatient research unit, as well as a referral source

for other psychiatrists in the area (who would treat those patients not meeting the entrance criteria for ongoing research studies). It would also serve as an ideal facility for training senior residents and post-doctoral fellows in Psychopharmacology.

As we discussed, my situation at Penn has dramatically improved since Dr. Whybrow has come on board. I am now feeling much more independent of my senior colleagues, and have begun to develop my own research identity. My request for new equipment for the clinic, an increase in space allocation, and total on-line computerization of all clinical research data is now being implemented. There may even be hope for a substantial increase in salary!

Nevertheless, I do see a great deal of exciting potential for me at Duke, and it would be a marvelous opportunity for professional growth to work with the first-rate investigators in your Department.

I would like to keep a dialogue going between us, and perhaps go over some more specific issues related to the institution of an outpatient research unit. Unfortunately, two hours was only enough time for us to touch on the broadest issues of such a plan.

As Debbie's due date draws ever closer (and my anxiety titer ever higher!) I will probably become more preoccupied with my "fatherly duties." However, I hope that we might have another opportunity to talk in the not too distant future.

Thanks once again for the kind invitation, and especially for the very warm reception.

With all best wishes,

Jay D. Amsterdam, M.D.
Director, Depression Research Unit

P.S. I am enclosing an up-to-date copy of my curriculum vitae.

Duke University Medical Center

DURHAM NORTH CAROLINA 27710

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

TELEPHONE (919) 684-5616
BOX 3950

August 9, 1984

Jay D. Amsterdam, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University of
Pennsylvania
36th and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Dear Jay:

Thanks for your letter of July 30 that I saw this week on my return from vacation. Once again I'm delighted you had such a good visit with us and I'll be looking forward to further dialogue with you.

In the meantime, I hope things go well for your wife's delivery in the near future. We'll all be hoping for a good outcome.

I'll be talking again with Peter Loosen later this week and we'll be back in touch with you quite soon. With best regards,

Sincerely,



Bernard J. Carroll, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman

BJC/ts
cc: Dr. Peter Loosen

file "c"

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19104

Department of Psychiatry

JAY D. AMSTERDAM, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Address Correspondence:
Depression Research Unit
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania
36th and Spruce Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104

April 26, 1985

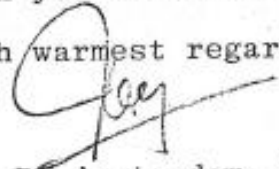
Bernard Carroll, M. D. Chairman
Department of Psychiatry
Duke University Medical Center
P.O. Box #3950
Durham, N. C. 27710

Dear Barney:

I received your invitation to the Department of Psychiatry Reception to be held in Dallas on May 21. I regret that I am unable to attend.

Although I would enjoy getting together again, it is impossible for me to get away at that time. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and am looking forward to meeting with you sometime in the near future.

With warmest regards,


Jay D. Amsterdam, M.D.
Director
Depression Research Unit

JDA:jpc