

# GROUP FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Report No. 6

419 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

June, 1948

## RESEARCH ON PREFRONTAL LOBOTOMY

### INTRODUCTION

The Research Study Group of the United States Public Health Service received numerous applications for funds to prosecute research on prefrontal lobotomy, lobectomy and topectomy. The Chairman appointed a sub-committee in Spring, 1947 to consider the subject and report conclusions on which could be based intelligent allocation of funds. This sub-committee garnered local information but was unable to convene for thorough consideration of the problem. Therefore, the Research Committee of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry was requested to undertake the task. This it did at its Autumn meeting in 1947 following which a detailed report was written and circulated to the entire GAP membership for criticism and suggestions. The modified document was submitted to and approved by the Research Study Group in April, 1948 and referred to the National Mental Health Council. The Council accepted the recommendation for a lobotomy commission but deferred final action pending more specific statements on possible organization, constitution, procedures of the commission and its potential need for funds.

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### Research on Prefrontal Lobotomy, Lobectomy and Topectomy

Since 1936 approximately 5,000 patients have undergone the operation of pre-frontal lobotomy or leucotomy. Most of these patients are still alive and available for study. However, from this extensive material studied over such a long period of time very few conclusive answers to any questions have been derived. Instead there is considerable aggressive propagandizing for the operation by those who perform it or use it as an essential therapeutic technique. Their statements as to the therapeutic effects and the non-existence of deleterious results are not sufficiently supported by convincing evidence. On the other hand, others who are equally biased, but against the operation, state that its effectiveness is minimal and its damaging effects great. There are a few groups of serious and scientific workers in this

country who attempt to ask themselves definite and unanswerable questions from the available material and the techniques which can be applied. From them preliminary data, not sufficient to make definite conclusions, have been presented.

The literature on lobotomy has been growing steadily, but consists largely in repetitive reiterations of similar statements by the few individuals who are performing the operation in great quantity. From our discussions and reading we are not convinced that lobotomy research is anywhere at the present time implemented with the best methods and directed by the most careful thinking.

It is remarkable that the best material has come from the clinic of a Swedish investigator, Dr. Rylander, who thoroughly studied thirty-two cases after lobectomy. He states that for the purpose of obtaining adequate data one cannot use most psychotic patients and that he uses for his experiments only those individuals who give hope of reliability in their response to his tests. For this purpose he considers the chronic compulsive-obsessive neurotics the best. He warns against using for experimentation individuals who are suffering from fluctuating or episodic psychoses. Rylander points out that after the operation the patients are shallow and show no depth of feeling; in fact their relatives frequently state to him, "He has lost his soul." Many patients after lobotomy lose a sense of value for money, everything seems all right, they forget and lose interest in everyday happenings and at night do not dream. They show no evidence of real happiness or real sorrow. They seem to have little fun and always maintain a very concrete and matter-of-fact attitude toward things that happen around them. These individuals have a tendency to persevere, and in response to problems they seem to have only one solution. They are incapable of associating mentally freely and intelligence quotients are not quite up to the pre-operative level. Rylander suggests that eventually a partial lobectomy may be devised to avoid the above-mentioned defects and at present is reluctant to operate on non-psychotic patients. Finally, he states that on the foundation of insuffi-

# Research On Prefrontal Lobotomy

**Jiyuan Zhang**



## **Research On Prefrontal Lobotomy:**

Biological Psychology Stephen B. Klein, B. Michael Thorne, 2006-10-03 This is a comprehensive and up to date presentation of the processes by which biological systems most notably the nervous system affect behaviour A fantastic art program an applauded accessible writing style and a host of pedagogical features make the text relevant to the lives of the students taking biological psychology      **Medical Research in the Veterans' Administration** United States. Veterans Administration. Department of Medicine and Surgery, 1958      **Medical Research in the Veterans Administration** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 1957      **A Decade of Cooperative Research** United States. Veterans Administration, 1965      Research on Prefrontal Lobotomy Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, 1948

**Studies in Lobotomy** Milton Greenblatt, 1950      **Cooperative Studies in Mental Health & Behavioral Sciences** Susan Abrams, Sandra Ciufo, 1975 Some 188 references to reports that appeared mostly as journal articles Arranged broadly by kinds of studies e g Drug screening studies Psychological studies and Methodological studies Entries include bibliographical information annotations and occasional graphs and charts No index      **Research on Prefrontal Lobotomy**, 1948      Recent Advances in Biological Psychiatry Joseph Wortis, 2012-12-06 Qualitative evaluations of buccal smear specimens have indicated an unusually high incidence of triple X females in a hospitalized schizophrenic population Specimens from adult prisoners have also indicated an unusually high incidence of triple X females Studies of a population of confined juvenile offenders on the other hand have indicated an unusually high incidence of one X females No unusual indications were observed in a population of normal volunteer females The data and their implications are discussed in context with previous observations ACKNOWLEDGMENTS This study was made possible primarily by research grants from the Scottish Rite Committee on Research in Schizophrenia The National Association for Mental Health Inc Additional support was provided by a grant from the National Institutes of Health GRS 05563 The study has been supported by the State of Ohio Department of Mental Hygiene and Correction Division of Mental Hygiene The author is particularly indebted to Edward N Hinko M D Regional Director of Research whose advice and help made the present study possible Invaluable cooperation and help have been received from the following administrators and their staffs F A Lingl M D Cleveland Psychiatric Institute Martha Wheeler Ohio Reformatory for Women M B McLane Scioto Village M B Holmes M D and S Caruso M D Massillon State Hospital G F Ogram M D Athens State Hospital C Waltner M D Woodside Receiving Hospital A Mako M D Fairhill Psychiatric Hospital and W G Stover M D      **Publications Resulting from National Institute of Mental Health Research Grants, 1947-1961** National Clearinghouse for Mental Health Information (U.S.), 1968      **Cooperative Studies in Psychiatry** United States. Veterans Administration. Department of Medicine and Surgery, 1970      Cooperative Studies in Psychiatry Central Neuropsychiatric Research Laboratory (Perry Point, Md.), 1970 150 references to published and in press literature mostly books and journal articles Entries arranged in classified order under Central Neuropsychiatric Research

Laboratory and under Outpatient Psychiatric Research Laboratory Studies cover drug projects and those concerning psychotherapy and psychopathology No index

**Progress in Electrodermal Research** Jean-Claude Roy, Wolfram Boucsein, Don C. Fowles, John Gruzelier, 2012-12-06 Electrodermal activity refers to electrical changes across the skin in areas of the body that are psychologically responsive The eccrine sweat glands are the primary determinant of electrodermal activity and these are psychologically active especially on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet As a matter of convenience electrodermal activity is most often recorded from the palms Over the years the electrodermal response has been known as the psychogalvanic reflex the galvanic skin response the skin resistance response the skin conductance response and the skin potential response The terms psychogalvanic reflex and galvanic skin response have fallen into disuse among scientists but are still to be found in psychology text books of its early discovery ease of measurement and often easily observable Because response to experimental manipulations the recording of electrodermal activity is one of the most frequently used methods in psychophysiology Indeed in the early years following the founding of the Society for Psychophysiological Research electrodermal research so dominated the field that people worried that the society was simply an electrodermal society Although other psychophysiological techniques have emerged as equally strong contributors to psychophysiology electrodermal research continues to be important throughout the world As a result of this massive research investment there has been great progress in understanding electrodermal phenomena as well as major advances in recording methods since the phenomenon was discovered

Publications Resulting from National Institute of Mental Health Research Grants 1947-1961 United States. Public Health Service, 1947

Principles, Practices, and Positions in Neuropsychiatric Research Joseph V. Brady, Walle J. H. Nauta, 2013-10-22 Principles Practices and Positions in Neuropsychiatric Research contains the proceedings of a conference held in June 1970 at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Washington D C in tribute to Dr David McKenzie Rioch upon his retirement as Director of the Neuropsychiatry Division of that institute This book is composed of the original contributions presented at the conference as well as several invited papers that could not be programmed at the meeting because of certain limitations Topics covered in some papers focus on anatomy of the thalamus glia neuronal interaction receptor characteristics and conduction velocities in bladder afferents responses of photoreceptors and specificity of responses of cells in the visual cortex This text also discusses the channeling of responses elicited by hypothalamic stimulation neurochemistry of reward and punishment behavioral analysis of aphasia and biology of sleep The military psychiatry and changing systems of mental health care as well as psychological issues in training for research in psychiatry are also addressed The contributions in this book will serve to reflect the remarkable range of bio social research interest and competence

**Psychology: From Inquiry to Understanding** Scott Lilienfeld, Steven Jay Lynn, Laura Namy, Nancy Woolf, Graham Jamieson, Anthony Marks, Virginia Slaughter, 2014-10-01 Psychology from inquiry to understanding 2e continues its commitment to emphasise the importance of scientific thinking skills It teaches students how

to test their assumptions and motivates them to use scientific thinking skills to better understand the field of psychology in their everyday lives With leading classic and contemporary research from both Australia and abroad and referencing DSM 5 students will understand the global nature of psychology in the context of Australia s cultural landscape      Medical research in the Veterans' Administration. 1959 v. 2 ,1957      **Current List of Medical Literature** ,1959 Includes section Recent book acquisitions varies Recent United States publications formerly published separately by the U S Army Medical Library      Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30 ... United States. Veterans Administration,1953      **Psychosurgery: Perspective on a Current Problem** National Institute of Mental Health (U.S.),1973

## The Enigmatic Realm of **Research On Prefrontal Lobotomy**: Unleashing the Language is Inner Magic

In a fast-paced digital era where connections and knowledge intertwine, the enigmatic realm of language reveals its inherent magic. Its capacity to stir emotions, ignite contemplation, and catalyze profound transformations is nothing in short supply of extraordinary. Within the captivating pages of **Research On Prefrontal Lobotomy** a literary masterpiece penned by way of a renowned author, readers set about a transformative journey, unlocking the secrets and untapped potential embedded within each word. In this evaluation, we shall explore the book's core themes, assess its distinct writing style, and delve into its lasting impact on the hearts and minds of those who partake in its reading experience.

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