

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN
Toronto

LABORATORY REPORT

Laboratory No. S. 2570.69

Patient's Name ROBERTSON, Terry Age 11.9.55 Sex M History No. 414895

Date Received 3.12.59 Date Reported 17.12.59 Ward 5D

Physician Dr. Hoffman Specimen (A) Temporal lobe - lat., sup., post., inf;

(B) Temp. lobe radially; (C) Temporal lobe;
(D) Lat. wall temp. horn; (E) Med. wall Temp. lobe;
(F) Hypocampus.

Initial Diagnosis
and/or History

Temporal lobe epilepsy.

CROSS: Specimen consists of:
(A) A piece of brain, 5.0 x 3.0 x 1.0 cm. One blood vessel seen running across center.
(B) Four pieces of brain, 1.0 x 0.4 - 0.4 x 0.3 cm.
(C) Piece of brain tissue - 1.0 x 0.4 cm.
(D) Three pieces of brain, etc speckled with haemorrhage 1.0 x 0.5 - 0.5 x 0.6 cm.
(E) Two pieces of brain tissue, 1.0 x 0.6 and 0.8 x 0.9 cm.
(F) Two pieces of brain, 1.5 x 1.3 and 1.2 x 0.8 cm.

Microscopic Description:

- (A) Temporal lobe: In all 6 sections were taken from this piece of tissue. Although many of the nerve cells showed shrinkage and basophilic staining, & this is not unusual in any brain biopsy. There were no definite areas of gliosis and in no place could dropping out of nerve cells be identified.
- (B) Temporal lobe radially: This is essentially similar to (A) except that the shrinkage and basophilia of some of the nerve cells is even more pronounced. This in all probability represents degeneration of some of the nerve cells.
- (C) Temporal lobe: This is one small piece of tissue which is essentially the same as (D). The tissue is grey-matter.
- (D) Lateral wall, temporal horn: This shows part of the hippocampus. In the hippocampus there is definite shrinkage and pyknosis of some of the nerve cells. There is no appreciable gliosis.
- (E) Medial wall, temporal lobe: Again no specific changes. This shows a few small groups of oligodendroglial cells which may be around degenerated nerve cells.
- (F) Supposed to be hippocampus, but there is no hippocampus in the sections taken. One shows the portion of the wall of a ventricle. This shows no specific changes.

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Toronto

PATHOLOGY REPORT

Laboratory No. G.2570.69

Patient's Name ROBERTSON, Terry Age 11.9.55 Sex M History No. 414895
Date Received 9.12.69 Date Reported 17.12.69 Word 50
Surgeon Dr. H. Hoffman Specimen Brain tissue (See page one)

Clinical Diagnosis
and/or History:

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Gross:

Microrscopic Descriptions:

In summary, a large number of sections were taken from the tissue received. In none was there any definite histological evidence of chronic change. The changes that were found in most instances could be referable to relatively short term degeneration of neurons.

Diagnosis Temporal epilepsy - no specific histological changes.

Code: T.00.00 (SIF 2861) 2570.69



Pathologist

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN
555 University Ave.

DISCHARGE REPORT

Patient's Regular Physician Dr. J.C. Steele
Referring Physician H.S.C. Dr. J.C. Steele
Staff Physician Service No. 14
Name ROBERTSON, Terry Ward 5D History No. 414895
Date of Birth 11/9/55 Admitted 27/10/69 Discharged 19/12/69

This 14 year old boy underwent a right temporal lobectomy for control of his seizure disorder which was refractory to conventional anti-convulsants and an associated behavioural problem present for several years.

His operation was uncomplicated and sections of the temporal lobe failed to indicate pathological change. Postoperatively he had a left upper quadrantic healed ^{epileptic} defect and several brief seizures were apparent in the postoperative period.

FINAL DIAGNOSIS: Right temporal lobectomy for seizure disorder and behavioural disturbance.

/gda
10/3/70

J.C. Steele, M.D., F.R.C.P.(C).

JOHN MARK FRIEDBERG, M.D.

NEUROLOGIST, BOARD CERTIFIED
3000 COLBY STREET, SUITE 305
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94705

644-2282

September 23, 1999

Terry Parker/Robertson
2209 55 Triller Ave
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M6R-2H6

Dear Mr. Parker/Robertson,

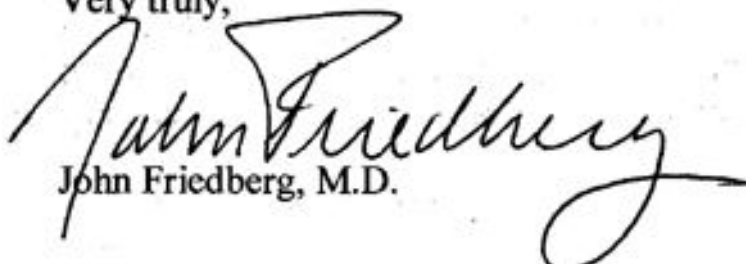
I am not sure why the authorities need a doctor or anyone else to interpret the Discharge and Pathology reports concerning your surgery at age 14 in 1969. Rarely have so few records told such a clear story.

But since you ask and since my conscience is aroused, I am writing to state that based on those records and your mother's letter of July, 1989, brain surgery was performed upon you at age 14 in 1969, without informed consent and consisted of the removal of perfectly normal brain tissue and resulted immediately in loss of part of your vision and increased seizures.

The reasons stated in the discharge summary were "seizures and behavioral disturbance."

It is unethical to do psychosurgery without consent, especially on a minor but whether the first stated indication for the surgery - your seizure disorder - gets anyone off the legal hook I couldn't say. It would seem to me that if your seizures were so bad that removal of your right temporal lobe was justified they shouldn't have needed a second indication and that perhaps their main interest or focus was your behavioral disturbance or depression or other psychiatric excuse for experimentation. But I am speculating as I have no other information on those involved and I would have to charge you for my time for any further response.

Very truly,


John Friedberg, M.D.

