4 November 1913

Dear Dr Korenchevsky,

Thanks for your letter of November 2nd. There was, I think never any possibility of carrying on with the second part of the programme immediately after the first because of the time needed to make the necessary tests. I am sorry that these should be unpleasant to the patients, and this should have been a prime consideration from the first. I cannot think it was necessary that the administration of vitamins should give ground for any reasonable complaint, as these are surely all available in entirely palatable forms. I presume the same can be said of the administration of hormones.

From the patients' point of view therefore, I can imagine there may be a need of rest from testing, but scarcely of a rest from treatment. I believe also that our programme has been limited on the ground that the testing operations take a great deal of time, so that more patients could not be handled than
we are undertaking. It would appear from this that many patients are not being troubled when time is given to testing other patients. I do therefore think that the administration of androgens should be undertaken as soon as it is possible to carry through the examination of the patients for possible effects of their first course of treatment. This interval was, I believe, agreed to be inevitable when we met, and is certainly necessary if what is done in the second course depends, as I believe it should, on what the significance of the results ascribable to vitamins.

My objection to any unnecessary prolongation of the interval is that this is likely to lead to loss of patients already partially tested through death or dispersion, and that this causing undue delay in producing some tangible return for the research we have already received.

With these comments I may safely leave the discussion in the hands of the meeting on Friday, which I am sorry to say I cannot manage to attend.

Yours sincerely,