

<sup>3</sup> Jensen TS, Olivarius B de Fine. Transient global amnesia—its clinical and pathophysiological basis and prognosis. *Acta Neurol Scand* 1981;63:220–30.

<sup>4</sup> Fisher CM. Concussion amnesia. *Neurology (Minneapolis)* 1966;16:826–30.

<sup>5</sup> Fisher CM. Whiplash amnesia. *Neurology (NY)* 1982;32:667–8.

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<sup>3</sup> Hallett M, Lindsey JW, Adelstein BD, Riley PO. Controlled trial of isoniazid therapy for severe postural cerebellar tremor in multiple sclerosis. *Neurology (Cleveland)* 1985; (in press).

## Matters arising

### Isoniazid and action tremor in multiple sclerosis

Sir: I was pleased to see the letter from Morrow *et al*<sup>1</sup> confirming some utility for isoniazid for postural action tremor in multiple sclerosis even though my name was badly misspelled in their reference to our work.<sup>2</sup> There have been a number of discrepant reports about isoniazid, and I suspect that a major reason has been lack of attention to the precise type of tremor being treated. The patients described by Morrow *et al* are similar to the ones that we have studied; confirmation of efficacy in a double-blind trial is now in press.<sup>3</sup>

I was particularly interested in the findings of Morrow *et al* about weakness and increase of spasticity with isoniazid. We have seen this also in a few patients who have primarily complained of increased "stiffness" of their legs. One patient was bothered enough by this stiffness that he decided to stop taking the isoniazid after a few months even though his tremor was diminished by the drug. We have not made any physiological studies of this symptom. I have taken this phenomenon as further evidence that isoniazid influences the motor system, and that its effect on tremor is not purely psychological.

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### References

<sup>1</sup> Morrow J, McDowell H, Ritchie C, Patterson V. Isoniazid and action tremor in multiple sclerosis. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatr* 1985;48:282–3.

<sup>2</sup> Sabra AF, Hallett M, Sudarsky L, Mullally W. Treatment of action tremor in multiple sclerosis with isoniazid. *Neurology (NY)* 1982;32:912–3.

## Notice

International Congress for Clinical Neuroimaging will be held in Vienna, 5–7 June 1986. Information may be obtained from: Secretariat International Congress for Clinical Neuroimaging, c/o Vienna Academy of Medicine, Alser Straße 4, A-1090 Vienna, Austria.