



History of ECT in Germany

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- Paracelsus 16th century
- Leopold von Auenbrugger 1764
- Oliver: "London Medical Journal" 1785
- Max Müller 1930: Remission of catatonia after spontaneous seizures

Müller studied medicine at the University of Bern and graduated in 1920 with a state examination and doctorate. He worked as an assistant doctor with Eugen Bleuler at Burghölzli in Zurich and as a senior physician at the Mental Hospital in Münsingen, which he headed from 1939 to 1954 as director. From 1954 to 1963 he was a full professor of psychiatry at the University of Bern and director of the Waldau.



History of Convulsive Therapy

Meduna systematically examined in the early 1930s

strychnine, caffeine, absinthe, as well as later camphor and



pentylenetetrazole (Cardiazol)

"Die Konvulsionstherapie der Schizophrenie"

1927 Nobel price for inoculating tertiary syphilis with malaria (v. Jauregg) 1927 Insulin-Shock therapy (Sakel)

The birth of convulsive therapy revisited: a reappraisal of László Meduna's first cohort of patients. Baran B, Bitter I, Ungvari GS, Gazdag G. J Affect Disord. 2012 Feb;136(3):1179-82.

László Meduna's pilot studies with camphor inductions of seizures: the first 11 patients. Gazdag G, Bitter I, Ungvari GS, Baran B, Fink M. J ECT. 2009 Mar;25(1):3-11.

History of Convulsive Therapy



- 1934 animal experiments (Chiauzzi)

70

Lara Rzesnitzek and Sascha Lang

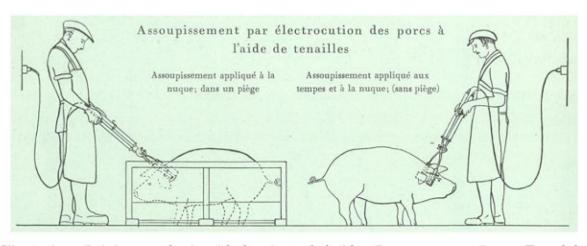
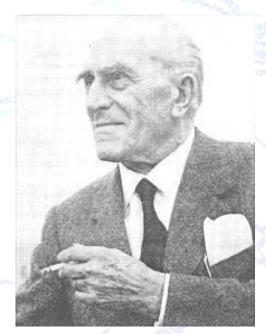


Figure 1: Illustration of pig's anaesthesia with the electrode holder. Source: excerpt from a French brochure by Lotterschmidt & Weinberger, without any date, Siemens MedArchives, Erlangen, Germany.

Birth of electroconvulsive therapy in Rome



- 1934 animal experiments of Chiauzzi
- 1937 Bini essentially improved them
- 1938 Cerletti and Bini: first use in patients
- 1940 US immigration of Lothar Kalinowsky



Ugo Cerletti



first ECT apparatus



Lothar Kalinowsky

Chair of the Department of Mental and Neurological Diseases at the University of Rome La Sapienza



Third Reich 1939-1945

West Germany — East Germany 1945-1989

Re-Union 1989-2018



Facts

- Dialectic (healing and killing)
 - ECT at university clinics
 - ECT at Auschwitz III Monowitz
 - Aktion T4
 - Modified ECT apparatus
- industry

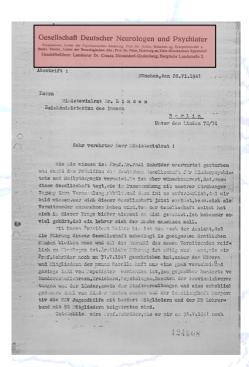
Fakes

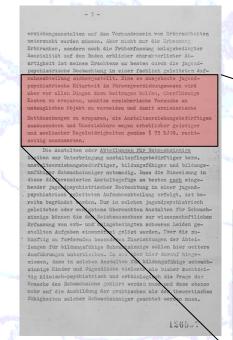
- ECT invented by NAZI regime
- used to torture

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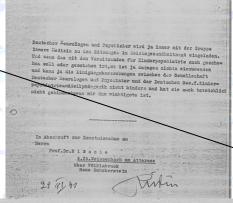
Facts

Dialectic (healing and killing) =>











nahmeabteilung sichergestellt. Eine so ausgebaute jugendpsychiatrische Mitarbeit in Fürsorgeerziehungswesen wird
aber vor allen Dingen dazu beitragen helfen, überflüssige
Kosten zu ersparen, unnütze erzieherische Versuche an
untauglichen Objekt zu vermeiden und damit erzieherische
Enttäuschungen zu ersparen, die Anstaltserziehungsbedürftigen
auszusondern und Unerziehbare wegen erheblicher geistiger
und seelischer Regelwidrigkeiten gemäss § 73 RJSG. rechtzeitig auszumerzen:

However, building up a cooperation in adolescent psychiatry within the "welfare education system" will - more than anything else - help to save dispensable costs, to avoid unnecessary educational attempts at the unfit object and thus to avoid educational disappointments, to separate those in need of institutionalization, and to eradicate those in time, who are ineducable due to mental abnormalities according to §73 RJGG.

Gesellschaft Deutscher Neurologen und Psychiater

Vorsitzender, Leiter der Psychiatrischen Abseniung: Prof. Dr. Histor, München ay, Kraepelinstraße a.

Society of German Neurologists and Psychiatrists
Chairman, Head of the Department of psychiatry: Prof. Dr. Rüdin, Munich, Kraepelinstreet.

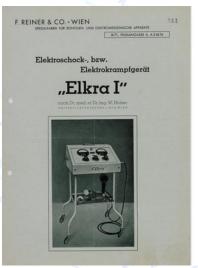
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Arcioni

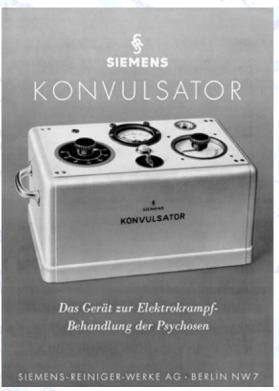
Vienna: Elkra







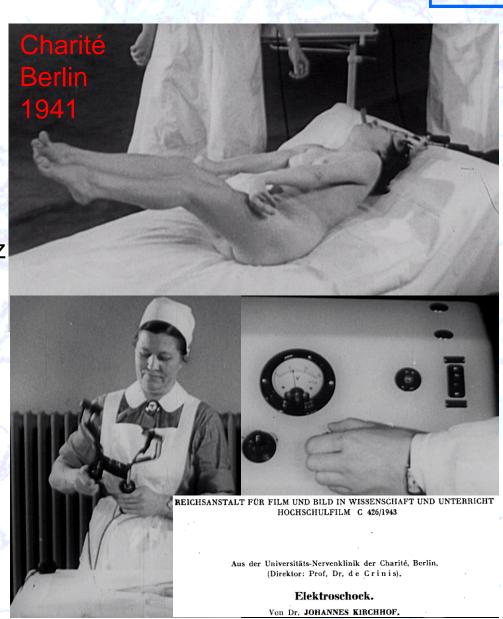






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 - ECT at Auschwitz III Monowitz
 - Aktion T4
 - Modified ECT apparatus
- industry



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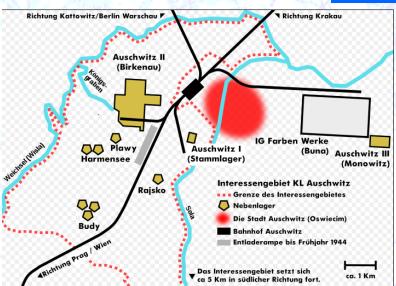
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See:

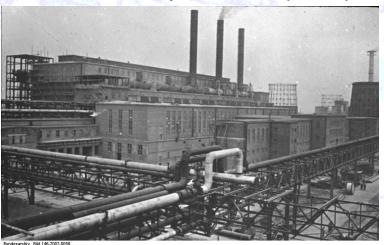
'Electroshock Therapy' in the Third Reich. Rzesnitzek L, Lang S. Med Hist. 2017 Jan;61(1):66-88.

A Material History of Electroshock Therapy: Electroshock Technology in Europe until 1945.
Rzesnitzek L, Lang S.
NTM. 2016 Sep;24(3):251-277.





IG Farben factory within camp complex

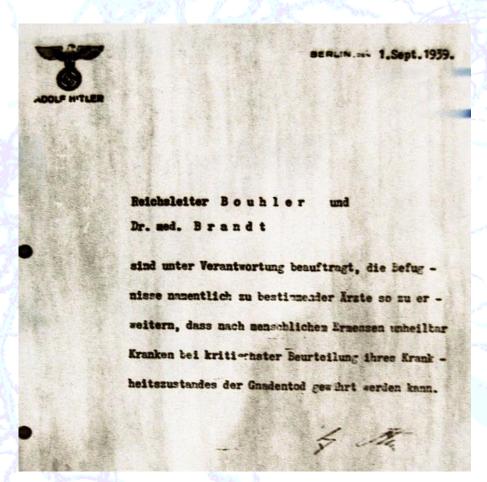


ECT was used "to make emotionally disturbed people fit for work again'.



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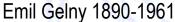
'Electroshock Therapy' in the Third Reich. Rzesnitzek L, Lang S. Med Hist. 2017 Jan;61(1):66-88.

Mass killing under the guise of ECT: the darkest chapter in the history of biological psychiatry.

Gazdag G, Ungvari GS, Czech H.

Hist Psychiatry. 2017 Aug 1





Ärztl. Direktor in Gugging und Mauer-Öhling

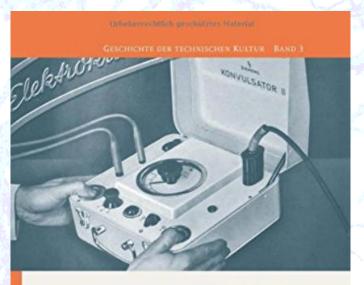
Gelny had himself converted or modified an ELKRA II, and had used it in Gugging and Mauer–Öhling on a total of around three hundred patients.



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Max Gawlich

Eine Maschine, die wirkt

Die Elektrokrampftherapie und ihr Apparat, 1938 – 1950

Urheberrechtlich gesch Fordinand Schöningh

"A machine that works"

West Germany (1945-1989)



Facts

Fakes

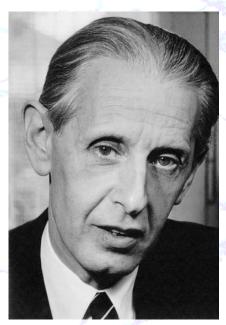
- underuse (at least since 60's)

- no longer used

West Germany (1945-1989)



- Lack of resources post war
- Overuse of unindicated ECT (also "punish" treatment)
- Isolation of scientists...
- Role of Lothar Kalinowski



Hist Psychiatry. 2015 Dec;26(4):433-51.

'A Berlin psychiatrist with an American passport': Lothar Kalinowsky, electroconvulsive therapy and international exchange in the mid-twentieth century.

L. Rzesnitzek



Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany 1968

West Germany (1945-1989)

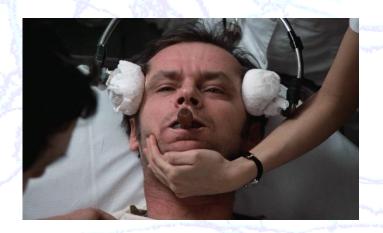


- biological psychiatry versus psychoanalysis and social psychiatrists (German psychiatry enquete (inquiry) commission 1970)
- 1975 "One flew over the cuckoo's nest"
- vicious circle for ECT use in Germany:
- "... Polemics led to less experience with ECT, which led to more uncertainties in prescribing ECT, leading to even lesser experience and finally to a stop of ECT practice in many hospitals"

 Nervenarzt. 1987 Aug;58(8):519-22.

[Electroconvulsive therapy in West Germany]. Sauer H, Laschka E, Stillenmunkes HP, Lauter H.

Frychiefrische und Neurologische Klinit der Universiert Heidelberg Über die Blektrobehandlung von									
[Name]							(Vorname)		(Alter)
1 Datum	2 Station	3 Geröt	4 4/4	5 mA	6 100	7 V	8 Schookverlouf	9 Zohl der Krömpfe	30 Bemerkungen
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Konvelsofor 00 1288 Dietz-Druk	- K1	schwacher	Krampf	- (†)			Gedöchtnisstörung	en	Unterschrift des Arzies



West Germany 1945-1989 and Re-Union 1989-2018



Tabelle 1	
Vergleich in der Anwendung der EKT Einrichtungen ^a	1977, 1985, 1995 nach
Lillicitungen	

	Reimer/Lorenzen 1977	Sauer et al. 1985	Müller et al. 1995
Fachkrankenhäuser darunter:			
Universitätskliniken	77%	78%	82%
Landeskliniken	47%	27%	74%
Fachkliniken			48%
Psychiatrische Abteilungen	60%	39%	68%

■ wurde nicht erfaßt

- "Cannot use the method because of the psychological and political disadvantages"
- "... with the current prejudices against ECT in the population a reintroduction in our house does not make sense, would promote a negative image and fears to contact psychiatry"
- "... So far, we respected the sensitivity of a population within a rural area with considerable pietistic cultural imprint. If necessary, the next university clinic has to carry out the ECT "
- "Reasons: fears, aversions, prejudices of the patients and the population ("Do you have electroshock?" "No" "Then I come to you.")
- "I checked" Yes "- but we use hardly use it unfortunately. Because I avoid everything that the population could scare; I very much appreciate the method but it's not worth it. That means that individual patients have to suffer longer than would be necessary, but I am glad that we have a fearless ambiance here at our clinic"

Nervenarzt. 1998 Jan;69(1):15-26. [Electroconvulsive therapy in psychiatric clinics in Germany in 1995]. Müller U, Klimke A, Jänner M, Gaebel W.

^a Anteil der antwortenden Kliniken, in denen EKT angewendet wird [27, 28]

Re-Union (1989 - today)



1992-1994

Heterogeneity:

- some hospitals practiced ECT since the 40's
- but some even introduced it in the early 60's
- university clinic of Hamburg 2017!
- highly state (regional) dependent incidence

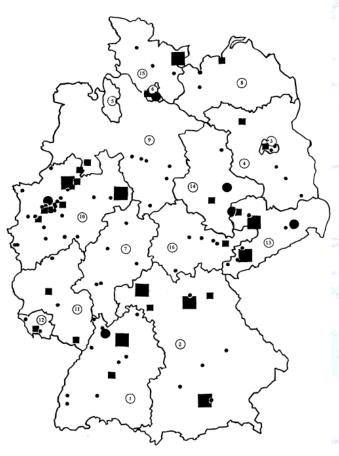


Abb. 1 ▲ Standorte von Kliniken mit EKT-Anwendungen in der BRD 1995. (Nach: Müller et al. 1996) Durchschnittliche Anwendungen in den Jahren 1992–1994: unter 10 • , 10 – 20 ■, 20 – 30 ●, über 30 ■, 1 Baden-Württemberg, 2 Bayern, 3 Berlin, 4 Brandenburg, 5 Bremen, 6 Hamburg, 7 Hessen, 8 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, 9 Niedersachsen, 10 Nordrhein-Westfalen, 11 Rheinland-Pfalz, 12 Saarland, 13 Sachsen, 14 Sachsen-Anhalt, 15 Schleswig-Holstein, 16 Thüringen

Re-Union (1989 - today)



Press:

"newspaper" study on ECT and defibrillation (1994-1995):
"Der Spiegel", The "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" (FAZ), the "Neue Zürcher Zeitung" (NZZ) and the "Berliner Tageszeitung" (taz):

- Even in high standard newspapers the style of language becomes special when they deal with ECT.
- The articles are strongly biased and lack information.
- Referring to ECT horror pictures of past psychiatry are cited.
- The language used is biased and discriminative.
- Referring to Defibrillation technical details are described and the language is neutral.
- The social representation of ECT is completely negative.

Re-Union (1989 - today)



Facts Fakes

- still underuse, but "renaissance"

- "no longer used" – is less prevalent

- adaption of guidelines:
 - 2003 German Medical Association
 - ... 10 years in between
 - 2012 S3 guideline "bipolar disorders"
 - 2012 German Association for Psychiatry,
 Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics
 - 2015 S3 guideline "unipolar depression"
 - 2018 S3 guideline "schizophrenia" (hopefully)

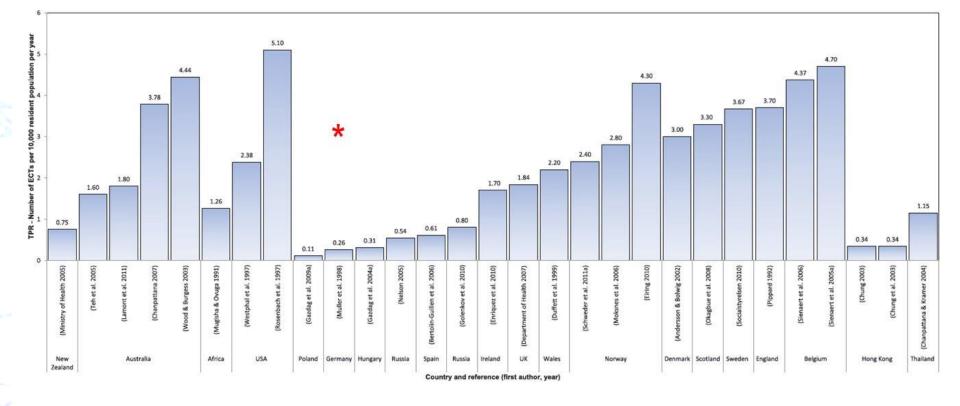
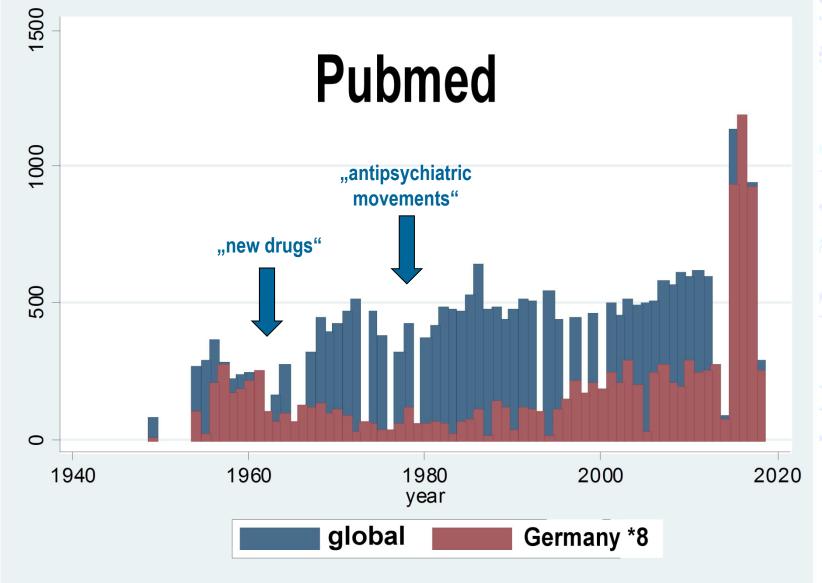


Figure 2. Worldwide Treated Person Rates (TPR)—number of ECTs per 10,000 resident population per year. [Correction added after first online publication on 20 March 2012: The TPR column for UK (Department of Health 2007) has been changed to 1.84.]

Brain Behav. 2012 Contemporary use and practice of electroconvulsive therapy worldwide. Leiknes KA et al.





"ECT OR electroconvulsive OR electroshock"

