



PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA DE CHILE

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R-268-86.

Dr. Oscar M. Marin, M.D.
Chief, Department of Neurology
Good Samaritan Hospital
Professor of Neurology
Oregon Health Sciences University
Portland, O R E G O N

Dear Dr. Marin :

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In response to your enquiry upon Dr. José Ochoa, I am glad to give you my opinion on his academic merits. I have been acquainted with Dr. Ochoa since his days as a medical student, when he took my courses in Anatomy and Histology. After earning his degree, he received training in my laboratory in Electron Microscopy. During this period he produced a very fine piece of work which was published in the year 1967 (Ochoa, J. Vial J.C. Behaviour of peripheral nerve structures in chronic neuropathies, with special reference to the Schwann cell, J. of Anat. 102-95-111). I look back upon this association as a very fruitful one. I came to know Dr. Ochoa as a very conscientious worker and a very gifted researcher. I have followed his work abroad with great interest and we have some contact by letters and occasional visits. I think that his contributions to the description of specific elementary sensations evoked by intraneural stimulation, constitute a first class performance. This adds to the work on conduction block in myelinated fibers and its pathological basis, and to very illuminating analyses of the fine structure of normal and diseased peripheral nerves. The fact that my own research interests have followed in a different direction does not allow me to make a more detailed appraisal of Dr. Ochoa's contributions. I feel however that I should lay stress upon his outstanding human qualities. He has a warm personality enriched by refined cultural interests, and he is a very upright and trustworthy person.

Yours very sincerely,


JUAN D. VIAL