

MEMO 700.7-2

1st Memo Ind

Serial 0000

(3 April 1952)

SUBJECT: Review of Article for Publication

SOO, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, Washington 25, D. C., 2 May 1952

TO: The Chief, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, P. O. Box 2610, Washington, D. C. (ATTENTION: Surgeon)

Subject article has been reviewed and publication in a clinical medical journal is disapproved on the basis that it might create a great deal of unjustifiable confusion and alarm on the part of clinicians. It is felt that the article is more suitable for journals that deal with biology or genetics. The author has presented a great deal of theory and some laboratory experimentation to support what he refers to as potential hazards, and the dire results implied cannot be supported by fact.

a. The paper does not show that any injury to humans, either before or after birth, has resulted from x-ray exposure received during diagnostic x-ray studies. Injury to normal structures has resulted from therapeutic irradiation, but some such damage is justifiable when carcinoma-lethal doses must be given.

b. If pediatricists and other clinicians were to read this article, great injustice could result and the health of patients would be placed in jeopardy because of fear of adequate diagnostic x-ray examinations.

FOR THE SURGEON GENERAL:

Incl: n/a

CONCURRENCE:

Telephone concurrence
2 May 52 - RQR

HAROLD I. AMORY
Colonel, MC
Chief, Radiological Consultants
Division

Maxwell Bauer

MAXWELL BAUER
Lt. Col., MSC
Medical Research and
Development Board

R. O. PRESTISS, Jr.
Colonel, M. C.
Executive Officer

Francis C. Nelson

FRANCIS C. NELSON
Lieutenant Colonel, MSC
Chief
Technical Information Office

Paul Hayes

PAUL HAYES
Colonel, MC
Chief, Medical Consultants
Division

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MEMO 100.1-2
2 May 52 RQR

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Washington National Record Center
Office of the Army Surgeon General
Record Group 112

Accession #: 56A198

Box #: 65

File: 700.7-2, Authority to Publish, May 1952

MEDCI

TECHNICAL INFORMATION OFFICE

DATE 4 April 1952
MS:rgl 62385

MEMORANDUM FOR: Col. Paul Hayes, MC
Chief, Med Cons Div
Room 2829, Mn Navy

SUBJECT: Manuscript For Review

Attached article is forwarded for review, comment and return to this office.

Incls:

1. Art "Some Potential Hazards of the Widespread Use of Roentgen Rays in Pediatrics" By Capt Robert W Miller
2. Memo dtd 2 Apr 52 fr D/D AFSWP

Francis C. Nelson
FRANCIS C. NELSON
Lieutenant Colonel, MSC
Chief
Technical Information Office

MED 1st Memo Ind DATE *4/7/52*

TO: Chief, Technical Information Office, SGO, Room

Subject article reviewed and returned with the following comments:

Presentation and/or publication recommended.

Publication recommended)
 Abstracting ") For The Armed Forces Medical Journal,
 Not recommended)

Recommend further review by _____

Recommendations (if applicable) regarding number of plates considered necessary to illustrate the article and justification of the cost of excess plates in accordance with SGO Circular No. 212, dated 12 December 1951, are as follows:

Remarks: *Parade days come*

Incl:

SG F/L 183
23 Jan '52.

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

DISPOSITION FORM

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| FILE NO. | SUBJECT |
| | USE OF ROENTGEN RAYS IN PEDIATRICS |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| TO | FROM | DATE | COMMENT NO. 1 |
| Colonel Amory Radiological Service | Colonel Bruton Chief, Pediatric Section | 18 April 1952 | |

This is very terrifying if true. I had been led to believe from what I have heard you say that we should have no fears of carefully done fluoroscopies and x-rays on infants and children. I doubt if it is proper to expect the same reaction in humans as one finds in certain flies and rodents exposed to roentgen rays. I feel this is too alarming a paper to appear in a clinical journal unless you feel that such alarming information is justified. I hope that we don't have to be so afraid of these procedures because they are essential to the study of certain conditions.


 Ogden C. Bruton
 Colonel, MC
 Chief, Pediatric Section

Washington National Record Center
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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

DISPOSITION FORM

FILE NO.

MEDDR

SUBJECT

Manuscript for Review

TO

Chief, Technical Information Office, SGO

FROM

Chief, Radiological Consultants Division SGO

DATE

22 April 1952

COMMENT NO. 1

1. The article, "Some Potential Hazards of the Widespread Use of Roentgen Rays in Pediatrics," is not recommended for publication in the journal PEDIATRICS or any other clinical medical journal. The article is more suitable for journals that deal with biology, genetics, etc. The article will result in a great deal of unjustifiable confusion and alarm on the part of clinicians. The author has presented a great deal of theory and some laboratory experimentation to support what he refers to as potential hazards. These potential hazards are just that, potential, and the dire results implied by the author cannot be supported by fact.

2. The author was unable to show that any injury to humans, either before or after birth, has resulted from x-ray exposure received during diagnostic x-ray studies. Injury to normal structures has resulted from therapeutic irradiation, but some such damage is justifiable when carcinomalethal doses must be given.

3. In brief, the author presents theory and laboratory data from which he draws conclusions as to the effect radiation may have on man and the species. His conclusions are his own unsupported opinions.

4. If pediatricists and other clinicians were to take this article seriously, great injustice would result and the health of patients would be placed in jeopardy because of fear of adequate diagnostic x-ray examinations.

5. Since x-ray and radium have been in use only about fifty years, it is impossible to predict effects on future generations. Because of the possibility of harmful effects, it is agreed that all forms of radiation should be used cautiously and by well trained specialists.

6. On the basis that the article will create confusion and alarm that cannot be justified, it is recommended that it not be published in a medical journal.

Harold I. Amory
 HAROLD I. AMORY, Colonel, MC
 Chief, Radiological Consultants Division

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MEDDH

SUBJECT: Manuscript for Review

TO Chief, TIO, SGO FROM Med Res & Dev Bd, SGO DATE 29 Apr 52 COMMENT No. 2 LtCol Dauer/61586/hw

Concur in views expressed by Colonel Amory in Comment No. 1.

Maxwell Dauer
MAXWELL DAUER
Lt. Col., MSC
Medical Research and
Development Board

Washington National Record Center
Office of the Army Surgeon General
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C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES SPECIAL WEAPONS PROJECT
P. O. Box 2610
Washington, D. C.

2 April 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, TECHNICAL INFORMATION OFFICE

SUBJECT: Review of Article for Publication

1. Request that the inclosed article be reviewed for publication in the journal, Pediatrics.
2. This article does not contain classified information.
3. Request this office be notified as early as possible of the results of this review.

/s/ G. M. McDonnell

GMM/mlj

G. M. McDONNELL
Lieutenant Colonel, MC
Surgeon

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