

November 30, 1971

Dr. Carl G. Heller, Head
Division of Reproductive Physiology
Pacific Northwest Research Foundation
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Dr. Heller:

This is to re-establish our dialogue regarding the long-term follow-up of irradiated volunteers. In reviewing our previous correspondence I believe we are not too far apart in our opinions as to the manner in which these examination should be carried out.

The only points we have not reached complete agreement on relate to whether or not the patient's transportation cost should be paid for him to return to Salem or Seattle for the examination and the problem of locating inmates subsequently incarcerated elsewhere. Apparently you feel that many free subjects would rather not have the examination than be examined by a local physician on a reimbursable basis. Perhaps we could reach a compromise by requesting the subjects have their examination locally, but for those individuals that refuse to do so we would pay their way back to Seattle or Salem for an examination by you or Dr. DiIacoi. (This is a suggestion; not a commitment for funds to cover transportation. I do not have that authority).

I really don't know what method would be best in trying to locate inmates at other institutions. Your previous suggestion that they could be located thru the FBI is probably accurate. However, I wonder if you would be provided this information by the FBI, and if they did, could this be considered as an invasion of the individual's right to privacy? Even if you are unable to locate all these men, we must set up a system to provide the examination to as many as possible as soon as we can. I feel sure this issue will be brought to the surface again by the time (or before) your program is considered for renewal.

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Thus, I am suggesting that you prepare a protocol for the long-term follow-up of the irradiated volunteers after their release from the research program. We seem to be in agreement that the examination program should be funded on a case by case basis through a nationally recognized insurance company.

Sincerely,

Frank T. Looks, D.V.M.
Medical Research Branch
Division of Biology and Medicine

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