

Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

DATE: March 17, 1982
IN REPLY REFER TO: MP-DO
MAIL STOP: H850
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mes-200

Dear [Redacted]

I respond to your letter of March 6, 1982. You are doing for your father precisely what I did for [Redacted] 25 years ago. In fact, it was a result of studying oncology for six months to assure myself that everything possible was being done for [Redacted] that I became aware of the potential for pion therapy. Later when it was decided to build a meson factory at Los Alamos, I made sure that it would provide the capability for clinical trials of negative pions. These have been underway for several years with what, from the standpoint of a physicist, appear to be encouraging results. We have in fact treated a number of gliomas. However, just now it appears that the NCI may prefer to discontinue these clinical trials. I and others are trying hard to persuade them otherwise, and we may be successful; but, in any case, I doubt that treatments can resume before next year. Even if they could resume earlier, they probably would not be useful in your father's case since he will presumably have had all the radiation he can tolerate.

I am very sorry, indeed, that I cannot be more helpful or more hopeful. There is much to be said for the option your father chose. I very much hope that the procedures being used will, at the very least, avoid severe discomfort.

Please accept my best wishes for your father and for success in your studies.

Sincerely,

Louis Rosen
Director of LAMPF

LR/rjc

Attachment: LASL-79-15, LAMPF, The Clinton P. Anderson Meson Physics Facility.

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