

July 1, 1971

Mr. James G. Hanchett
Executive Assistant to
Honorable Craig Hosmer
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Hanchett:

As I indicated in our telephone conversation, I am providing additional information on DL- α -methyldopahydrazine. We believe this is the drug referred to as being used in England to lessen the side effects of L-dopa.

In their continuing clinical research on the treatment of Parkinson's disease with large oral doses of L-dopa, Dr. Cotzias and his staff at the Brookhaven National Laboratory have found that the effective daily dose of L-dopa can be reduced considerably when DL- α -methyldopahydrazine is administered in conjunction with L-dopa. Accompanying this reduction in the therapeutic dose is a marked reduction in undesirable gastrointestinal side effects (nausea and loss of appetite). DL- α -Methyldopahydrazine is presumed to act by inhibiting the conversion of L-dopa to dopamine in body tissues other than the brain. The inhibition of this metabolic transformation spares L-dopa and thus minimizes untoward effects caused by dopamine.

Dr. Goldstein, Chief of our Medical Research Branch, conferred with Dr. Cotzias and he agrees that DL- α -methyldopahydrazine is most likely the drug about which you inquired and it is being used in England. Dr. Cotzias, Dr. Goldstein and I also feel that the interests of the patient would be served best by having Mr. Dunlap's physician contact Dr. Cotzias directly regarding the patient's clinical history and his therapeutic course. Dr. Cotzias also expressed his willingness to arrange with the physician for an evaluation of Mr. Dunlap's suitability as a research candidate for examination at the Medical Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Mrs. Dunlap has called me and I have suggested that she have her husband's physician contact Dr. Cotzias. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to her.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

cc: Dr. George Cotzias, BNL
Dr. Goldstein, BMM/DBM

MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY - 3-10

W. W. Burr, Jr., M.D.

Deputy Director
Division of Biology and Medicine

CONG. REL.

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| OFFICE ▶ | ENCLOSURE: As stated | DEP. DIR. W. W. Burr, Jr.:lmb | MED BR Dr. Goldstein | CONG. REL. <i>[Signature]</i> |
| SURNAME ▶ | | | | |
| DATE ▶ | | 7/1/71 | | 7/1/71 |

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