

J. Warren
3/19/49

**Columbia University**  
**in the City of New York**

[NEW YORK 32, N. Y.]

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY  
 RADIOLOGICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY  
 630 WEST 168TH STREET

October 14, 1949

Dr. Shields Warren  
 Atomic Energy Commission  
 Washington, D.C.

4565

Dear Dr. Warren:-

It does seem as if some information on repeated whole body doses of radiation might be obtained from thyroid cancer patients receiving repeated large doses of radioactive iodine. We have quite a number of such patients, some of whom have received more than a thousand millicuries of I-131 in the course of a year and a half. We have kept pretty good blood studies on them, together with their clinical stories, and I can also estimate their whole body doses.

Dr. Frantz is the coordinating medical officer on this study, and I have asked her if one of her residents can tabulate for you such data as we have. I will then add the radiation dosage data. We should be able to send them to you next week.

This is a study which could well be extended. We are continually adding to our series of cases, and we could do more types of laboratory work on them, such as you ask about, - if we had the financial support.

The contract which Dr. Werner has with the AEC for thyroid work does not touch upon these cases at all, nor, in fact, on any receiving very much therapy. It covers a rather narrow laboratory research. Up to now, our thyroid cancer program has had a little support from the Cancer Foundation, but it now appears that their program is to be transferred to the Delafield Hospital, and we are rather in despair as to how to go on. I wonder what you would think of our being able to get a small AEC contract to carry on these cases, with the understanding that we would study as many of the effects you suggest as possible. We would not need very much, - a technician, money to pay for radioactive iodine shipments, and either a technician or money to pay for plasma, and other blood tests. We have a very cooperative and interested group of doctors, and Surgical Pathology furnishes us a resident who can spend a great deal of time on these cases. My own laboratory will do all it can, - but, if I lose the technician the cancer fund has been paying for, it will be hard to do much.

If you think anything might be arranged, Dr. Frantz will apply for a contract.

With kindest personal regards, I am, Yours sincerely,

*Edith H. Quimby*

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