

DOCUMENT SOURCE	University of California at Los Angeles University Archives	
SERIES TITLE	SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	
SERIES NUMBER	ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF STAFFORD WARREN	
BOX NUMBER	# 300 - SUBSERIES 3000-5	COPY
FOLDER NAME	87	
NOTES	VETERANS ADMINISTRATION 1947 P. 1/4	
FOUND BY	PERLEY HALL	

724116



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

August 15, 1947

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: 10CE

Doctor Stafford Warren, Professor of Biophysics
School of Medicine
University of California
Los Angeles, California

Dear Staff;

A Section on Radioisotope Research has been established within the Research and Education Service, Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans Administration. Doctor George M. Lyon has been appointed Chief of this Section.

The activities of the Section will be directed toward bringing to the veteran the benefits of atomic energy in so far as they are applicable in the field of medicine.

The specific mission of the Radioisotope Research Section is "to further within the facilities of the Veterans Administration the use of radioisotopes in (1) basic research in biology and physiology, (2) the investigations directed toward the development and use of diagnostic techniques in which tracers may be utilized and (3) in the safe and medically intelligent use of the radioisotopes in such clinical conditions as may seem desirable".

It is desirable that veterans have the benefit of treatment with radioisotopes when such is indicated by sound medical judgment. To do this will require special precautions as to safety and as to the professional qualifications of those administering these new therapeutic agents if the best interest of the patient and of the Veterans Administration are to be served.

It is desirable that veterans have the advantage of the employment of radioisotopes in such diagnostic techniques as are medically sound and that as new applications are developed and are accorded appropriate medical approval, they be added to the diagnostic armamentarium in those institutions so equipped and prepared for their use.

1170581

DOCUMENT SOURCE	University of California at Los Angeles University Archives	
SERIES TITLE	SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	
ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF STAFFORD WARREN		
REF ID NUMBER	#300 - SUBSERIES 3000-5	COPY
BOX NUMBER	87	
FOLDER NAME	VETERANS ADMINISTRATION	1947 P. 34
NOTES		
FOUND BY	PERLY HALL	

Doctor Stafford Warren

Within the hospitals of the Veterans Administration there is an important reservoir of valuable clinical material. The administrative facilities and the professional organization of the Veterans Administration in large measure tend to favor the harvesting of valuable information through the conduct of investigations of an approved nature within these hospitals. The close association of the staff of many of these hospitals with outstanding teaching and research centers through the Dean's Committees favors the conduct of investigations and the appropriate utilization of radioisotopes within certain hospitals of the Veterans Administration on a high plane of medical acceptance.

To fulfill the obvious responsibility of the Veterans Administration to the veterans, and to take advantage of the opportunities offered jointly by this trust and by the introduction of radioisotopes into the field of medicine, it is necessary that an overall policy be developed which will serve as a guide to the development and conduct of this program within the facilities of the Veterans Administration. To this end it is proposed that a Central Advisory Committee on Radioisotope Research be appointed to consult with, and advise, the Chief of the Section in matters regarding policy, and to make specific recommendations as to safety requirements.

It is desirable to point out also that at least some of the benefits to be derived from such a program will not be limited to the veterans alone but will extend as well to the citizens of the nation. Such a point is exemplified by the possibility of evaluating, on a statistically sound basis, the place to be accorded the utilization of P^{32} in the treatment of patients with chronic leukemia and with Hodgkins disease. The number of patients who could be so treated under controlled conditions is greater than that presented from any other source. As time goes on there will be continuous opportunity for similar contributions.

It is proposed that the Central Advisory Committee be composed of five members, three of whom would be outstanding authorities intimately familiar with the human application of radioisotopes and two who would be outstanding authorities in the broad field of planning medical research but not necessarily experienced in the specialized field of radioisotope applications.

It is also contemplated that upon the recommendation of the Central Advisory Committee that certain individuals particularly qualified in a specific field of investigation or professional experience be called upon to serve in a consultative capacity and to confer with members of the Committee or with the Chief of the Radioisotope Research Section, in such manner as may be recommended by the Committee. There are some individuals with a very advanced experience in certain highly specialized fields of research in which isotopes have been employed, or in which it might be desirable to attempt to employ them. A

DOCUMENT SOURCE	
University of California at Los Angeles University Archives	
SERIES TITLE <i>SCHOOL OF MEDICINE</i>	
<i>ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF STAFFORD WARREN</i>	
SERIES NUMBER	COPY
<i>#300 - SUBSERIES 3000-5</i>	
BOX NUMBER	
<i>87</i>	
FOLDER NAME	
<i>VETERANS ADMINISTRATION 1947 P. 34</i>	
NOTES	
FOUND BY	
<i>PERCY HALL</i>	

Doctor Stafford Warren

mechanism for the occasional employment of such individuals in the capacity of a consultant would materially enhance the opportunities of the Central Advisory Committee in its relationship to the program to be developed with the Veterans Administration.

It is proposed that this Central Advisory Committee have an initial meeting in Washington, D. C., as soon after September first as is practicable and that thereafter infrequent meetings be held at intervals of not more than twice a year.

It is believed that the Central Advisory Committee can provide this highly desirable and vitally important advisory service almost entirely through making themselves available to the Chief of the Section for consultation by letter, by telephone or by personal visits on the part of the Chief of the Section or his representatives.

It is appreciated that those who would make desirable members of the Central Advisory Committee are extremely busy individuals and that it is essential to conserve their time and energies. On the other hand, it is believed possible to so streamline the activities of the Central Advisory Committee that with the wealth of information and experience already possessed by the proposed members of the Committee, the necessary advice and counsel on a policy making level can be obtained without undue hardships on any member.

To this end it is proposed that the Chief of the Section prepare a suggested policy and plan with respect to implementing this program, and that this together with an exposition of what had been done in this line prior to July 1, 1947, be presented to the members well in advance of the initial organizing meeting.

You are requested to accept appointment as a consultant to the Central Office of the Veterans Administration to serve on the Central Advisory Committee. In this capacity compensation will be on the basis of fifty dollars per day for such services. The cost of travel and the per diem will be paid by the Government to care for necessary expenses incurred in rendering such services.

Those who have been asked to serve on this Committee are Doctors Stafford Warren, Hugh Morgan, Perrin Long, Rymar L. Friedall and Shields Warren.

This is a very long letter and I blame George Lyon for being the verbose author. He is, however, giving an extremely clear exposition of our problems and of the responsibilities of the proposed Central Advisory Committee. I do hope

DOCUMENT SOURCE	University of California at Los Angeles University Archives	
SERIES TITLE	SCHOOL OF MEDICINE	
SERIES NUMBER	ADMINISTRATIVE FILES OF STAFFORD WARREN	
BOX NUMBER	#300 - SUBSERIES 3000-5	COPY
FOLDER NAME	87	
NOTES	VETERANS ADMINISTRATION 1947 P. 40	
FOUND BY	PERCY HALL	

Doctor Stafford Warren

that you will be able to come in and help us all by accepting an appointment on this Committee which will have such important responsibilities.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

E. H. Cushing
E. H. CUSHING, M. D.
Acting Chief Medical Director

1170584