College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University CANCER CENTER / INSTITUTE OF CANCER RESEARCH 701 WEST 168TH ST NEW YORK, N.Y. 10032 January 22, 1980 Dr. Joshua Lederberg Rockefeller University 1230 York Avenue at 66th St. New York, New York Dear Josh, Enclosed are some papers and references related to the workshop on risk assessment held on Friday, January 18. If I seemed impatient, it is because I have been involved in a number of other similar endeavors. I feel that it is necessary to develop entirely new concepts, methods and technologies before accurate risk estimates can be made in cancer and related diseases. I believe that more effort should be concentrated on these innovative aspects than on another survey of the "state of the art". There have been numerous recent surveys and they all highlight our current limitations. This is perhaps best demonstrated in the recent debates within the scientific community, government agencies, and the general public on the risks and benefits re-

lated to saccharine usage. Nevertheless, I realize that the National Academy of Sciences has been assigned a specific task by Congress and that your committee thus has an important and difficult task.

If I can provide any additional information to your committee I \smile would be happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Benie

I. Bernard Weinstein, M.D. Professor of Medicine and Environmental Sciences

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Enclosures