

SENT FOR INFORMATION OF

..... Dr. Josh Lederberg

July 24, 1968

Dr. Arno Motulsky
Department of Medicine
School of Medicine
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98105

Dear Arno:

This is in response to Josh's letter of July 12 concerning the statement of your Committee. It is a quite satisfactory statement; congratulations and thanks. I have only one reservation. In recommending that we formulate issues that should be then submitted to some appropriate body, such as the Board on Medicine or the Committee on Life Sciences and Public Policy of the National Academy, have we cleared with them their willingness to accept such questions. The former committee is still trying to establish its specific areas of reference, while the latter committee is completing a major assignment, with, as I understand it, no very clear tables of organization for the future. In either event, neither of these committees has anything approaching a standing subcommittee of geneticists. In fact, to my knowledge there is no genetic representation whatsoever on the Board on Medicine. Accordingly, unless there is specific assurance from these two committees that they are prepared to establish the necessary machinery to deal with whatever questions we refer, it seems to me that we can be accused of buck-passing.

The memo which I received from Josh did not include the statement on screening for metabolic defects. I would be most interested to see what we have come up with.

Sincerely yours,



James V. Neel, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

JVN:ap

CC: J. Lederberg

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