

June 26, 1963

B. D. Dinman, M.D., D.Sc.
Associate Professor
The Ohio State University
Department of Preventive Medicine
410 West 10th Avenue
Columbus 10, Ohio

Dear Bert:

The specimens and the history involved in the case of your patient, Mr. [REDACTED] have been received and started on their way. I presume that the bill goes to the Ohio Industrial Commission, and it will be so dealt with unless I hear from you to the contrary.

I write primarily to call your attention to the fact that we do not accept for analysis, samples for lead determination that have not been collected in our equipment. I have authorized the exception to this policy in this instance, because the samples came from you. This is, however, a rare occasion, which we are not likely to repeat.

The reason lies in the fact that medico-legal, as well as clinical, considerations exact this form of responsibility from the Laboratory. Unless one can defend his position in relation to the avoidance of contamination, the results may prove to be too vulnerable to criticism to be useful. Moreover, and actually more important, if the results obtained on the blood are near the threshold, the minutest possibility of contamination may be of crucial significance, since the error, at best, is of the order of ± 0.01 mg. per 100 grams. Any additional source of error, whether likely or highly unlikely, is a source of real concern. I suspect that you know these things and that you had little choice, but I think it worth while to speak of them.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

RAK:ss