

August 23, 1940

Dr. James G. Howell
715 Frederick Avenue
Catonsville
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Doctor Howell:

I am reporting to you herewith the analytical results obtained on the samples of urine and blood from your patient [REDACTED]. Dr. Schradin has told me of your courtesy to him in connection with the illness of this man in which, for many reasons, we are very much interested. I wish to express my thanks for your cooperation.

The result on the urine was 0.90 milligrams of lead per liter, while the average of two results on the blood was 0.062 milligrams per 100 grams of whole blood. This latter result would be rather unusual as compared to the very much higher value in the urine in a case of inorganic lead poisoning, and in such a case we would conclude that the urine sample had probably been contaminated somewhat in the process of collection or analysis. There are a number of peculiarities, however, in the case of tetraethyl lead poisoning, and one of these is that the lead compound is lost from the body at a more rapid rate than in the case of inorganic lead compounds. There is a greater discrepancy, therefore, between the blood values and the urinary values. In any case the results in this instance are characteristic of a rather serious degree of lead exposure. This, of course, was already known by reason of the clinical course of the illness, and the analytical results are now a matter of academic and scientific interest only.

Cordially yours,

RAK:is

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

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