

EXXON CHEMICAL AMERICAS

P. O. Box 3272, Houston, Texas 77001

EXXON
CHEMICALS

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
J. P. THORN
Manager

July 24, 1981

AIHC Epidemiology Sub-Committee

Gentlemen:

Attached is the latest version of the University of Texas Gulf Coast brain tumor study proposal. This was submitted to NCI on July 1, where funds exist, at the specific encouragement of Dr. Richard Adameson who replaced Greg O'Connor last September as director of the Cancer Cause and Prevention Division.

You will note that the sample size has been increased by the inclusion of Louisiana. The pathology element has also been significantly enhanced by the addition of Dr. Pelayo Correa as a co-investigator.

Your individual comments/endorsement should be sent to reach Dr. Buffler by September 15 if possible. If you will copy your letters to me, it may be possible to add A.I.H.C.'s endorsement as well.

Very truly yours,



C. W. Umland

CWU:skm

Attachment

cc: W. J. McCarville - w/o attachment
L. J. Guarraia - " "
R. A. Lang - " "



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Associate Dean for Research
713/793-4426

P. O. BOX 80186
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77086

1 June 1981

Mr. Carl Umland
Exxon Chemical Americas
Post Office Box 3272
Houston, Texas 77001

Dear Carl:

Well, the new grant application is off to NIH with a request for assignment to the Special Programs Branch of NCI per Dr. Adameson's suggestion. I am enclosing a copy of the new application and my letter to Dr. Adameson for your review.

Since a number of AIHC member industries are interested in the proposed study, you may wish to circulate this new application for review. I would be extremely appreciative of any comments or suggestions provided by such a review since we will have until October 1981 to forward any additional comments in support of our application. I understand that Gulf, Texaco, Union Carbide and Monsanto, in addition to Exxon, are extremely interested in the proposed study.

Thank you again for your strong interest and continued support of our research endeavors.

With very best regards.

Most sincerely,

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and
Associate Professor of Epidemiology

PAB/st

Enclosures (2)

UCC
068583



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Associate Dean for Research
713/792-6438

P. O. BOX 20126
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77026

1 July 1981

Dr. Richard Adameson
Acting Director
Cancer Cause and Prevention
Building 31, 11-A-03
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Dear Dr. Adameson:

I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you several weeks ago, and the encouragement you provided for us to proceed with our request to NCI/NIH for funding for the proposed case-comparison study of CNS neuroglial tumors and occupational exposures in the Texas-Louisiana coastal area. Per our discussion, I am enclosing a copy of the application submitted to NIH on July 1, 1981. In my letter of transmittal, I specifically requested that this application be assigned to the Special Programs Branch of NCI (Carcinogenesis Extramural Programs) as you suggested.

I have discussed this request for Special Programs Branch assignment with Dr. Pelayo Correa, Principal Investigator for the Louisiana component of the proposed study, and he is in full support of your suggestion. If, upon your review of the enclosed application, you identify the need for or desire for any additional information, please let me know.

Thank you again for your interest and thoughtful review of our proposed research.

With best regards.

Most sincerely,

Patricia A. Buffler (SW)

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and
Associate Professor of Epidemiology

PAB/st
Enclosure (1)

cc: Dr. Pelayo Correa, Louisiana State University Medical Center
Dr. Robert Grossman, Baylor College of Medicine
Dr. Ralph Frankowski, The University of Texas School of Public Health
bcc: Mr. Carl Umland

UCC
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ABSTRACT OF RESEARCH PLAN

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT ORGANIZATION (Same as Item 1, page 1)

University of Texas Health Science Center, P.O. Box 20036, Houston, Texas 77030

TITLE OF APPLICATION (Same as Item 1, page 1)

CNS tumors and occupational exposures

Name, Title and Department of all professional personnel engaged on project, beginning with Principal Investigator/Program Director

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Epidemiology

Ralph F. Frankowski, Ph.D., Co-Investigator, Associate Dean and Professor of Biometry

Robert G. Grossman, M.D., Co-Investigator, Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery, Baylor College of Medicine

J. Fred Annegers, Co-Investigator, Associate Professor of Epidemiology

Robert Hardy, Ph.D., Co-Investigator, Professor of Biometry

Merry Makela, Ph.D., Co-Investigator, Research Assistant Professor

Susan Wood, M.A., Project Director, Epidemiology Research Unit

Lindsay Reed, M.S., Data Processing Director, Epidemiology Research Unit

Keith Burau, Ph.D., Computer Programmer, Epidemiology Research Unit

Clayton Eifler, Ph.D., Co-Investigator, Assistant Professor of Biometry

(See Page 2a for Continuation)

ABSTRACT OF RESEARCH PLAN: Concisely describe the application's specific aims, methodology and long-term objectives, making reference to the scientific disciplines involved and the health-relatedness of the project. The abstract should be self-contained so that it can serve as a succinct and accurate description of the application when separated from it. DO NOT EXCEED THE SPACE PROVIDED.

In collaboration with the Louisiana State University Medical Center, a population based case-control interview study of newly diagnosed histologically confirmed CNS neuroglial tumors among adults aged 20-79 years will be conducted in the six county Texas Gulf Coast Area and twenty-six parishes in southern Louisiana. Cases of CNS neuroglial tumors diagnosed during the interval July 1979 to June 1984 will be ascertained through existing systems of case ascertainment in the two study areas (Texas and Louisiana). An estimated 954 cases of neuroglial tumors will be identified and all available tissue specimens will be reviewed by collaborating neuropathologists in the two study areas. A population based comparison group, matched on age, race and sex, will be selected in the two study areas. Detailed personal interviews with case and comparison subjects will be conducted to ascertain occupational, residential, radiological and familial exposures and to estimate the relative risk of neuroglial tumors associated with these risk factors. In the event of death or disability, interviews will be conducted with next of kin.

Incidence rates for neuroglial tumors for the interval July 1979-June 1984 will be estimated and compared for the two study areas and for specific Texas counties and Louisiana parishes. A detailed occupational and industrial coding scheme will be used to facilitate identification of high risk occupations and industries in the two study areas. Interview data from the two study areas will be analyzed separately and combined, as indicated by initial analyses. Data regarding familial aggregation will be validated by use of mailed questionnaires, death certificates and hospital records.

LABORATORY ANIMALS INVOLVED. Identify by common names. If none, state "none"

None.

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.

Case-comparison study of neuroglial tumors and occupational exposures in Coastal Texas and Louisiana.

ABSTRACT OF RESEARCH PLAN (CONTINUED)

Name, Title and Department of all professional personnel engaged on project, beginning with Principal Investigator/Program Director:

Louisiana Component

Peñayo Correa, M.D., Co-Investigator, Professor of Pathology
William D. Johnson, M.D., Co-Investigator, Associate Professor of Biometry
Paul McGarry, M.D., Co-Investigator, Professor of Pathology
Elizabeth T. Fonham, M.P.H., Co-Investigator, Instructor of Pathology

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER
1901 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Department of Pathology

June 25, 1981

Dr. Patricia A. Buffler
Epidemiology Research Unit
School of Public Health
The University of Texas Health Science
Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20186
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Dr. Buffler:

I have enjoyed working with you and your team in the preparation of our application for an NCI grant to carry out a case-control study of neuroglial tumors in Texas and Louisiana. This subject is of considerable interest to me and my staff and we hope to have the opportunity to work with you in this investigation. As you know, we are carrying out case-control studies in Louisiana and have established the necessary contacts with hospitals and medical personnel.

We have obtained approval of the administrative authorities of our University to enter in a consortium agreement with the University of Texas for this investigation.

Looking forward to our collaborative research effort,

Sincerely yours,


Pelayo Correa, M.D.
Professor of Pathology

PC:ac
Enclosure

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068588

Campus Correspondence

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

June 5, 1981

from: Dr. Pelayo Correa
Pathology Department

to: Mr. William Roland
Comptroller

Re
Approved
WJR 6/23/81

We plan to enter into a consortium agreement with the University of Texas to apply for a grant to study the epidemiology of brain tumors.

I will appreciate it if you let me know if the enclosed consortium agreement meets with your approval.

PC:ac

Enclosure

UCC
068589

Baylor College of Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY • 713 790-4661

June 30, 1981

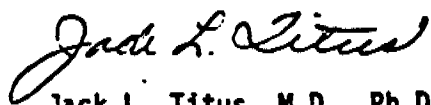
Dr. Patricia A. Buffler
Epidemiology Research Unit
School of Public Health
The University of Texas Health Science
Center at Houston
Texas Medical Center
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Doctor Buffler:

This letter is to affirm the willingness of the Department of Pathology of Baylor College of Medicine to collaborate in your proposed investigation of brain cancer in the Texas Gulf Coast Area. Your proposal has been reviewed by Dr. Robert Grossman, Dr. Dawna Armstrong, Dr. Dan Sauls, and Dr. Joel Kirkpatrick, the persons primarily involved in the direction of the study and the Department of Pathology is prepared to support them by providing the facilities and personnel necessary. The estimated cost for the pathological studies (including technical and secretarial assistance) for the three years of the investigation is approximately \$17,200.

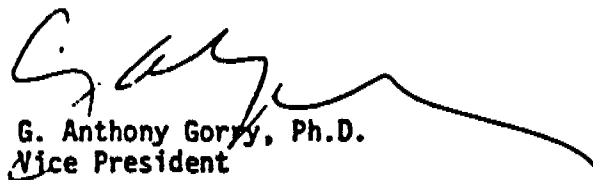
The Department of Pathology at Baylor College of Medicine is pleased to cooperate with you and your colleagues in this worthwhile investigation.

Sincerely,



Jack L. Titus, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman

JLT:mn



G. Anthony Gorry, Ph.D.
Vice President



Texas Department of Health

Robert Bernstein, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Commissioner

A. M. Donnell, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P.
Deputy Commissioner

1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756
(512) 458-7111

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Richard W. Ragsdale
Isadore Roosth
Barbara T. Slover

October 31, 1980

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Epidemiology
The University of Texas Health Science Center
School of Public Health
Epidemiology Research Unit
P.O. Box 20186
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Doctor Buffler:

Thank you for your letter of October 14 indicating your interest in applying for a National Institutes of Health Contract. We certainly agree that "Occupational Exposure and Brain Cancer in Texas Coastal Counties" is a major problem that would benefit investigation. The Statewide Cancer Registry Program will be happy to negotiate in assisting with this proposed study.

It is my understanding that you are interested in all brain cancer cases between 1979-1980, and that you hope to gather data on all glioma cases for the years 1981-1984.

We look forward to cooperating in this very important project.

In order for the Texas Department of Health to determine its role in dealing with the many problems related to cancer and the environment, I am convening an ad hoc committee of experts such as yourself to brainstorm with us at a meeting on November 20. I have mailed an invitation and agenda to Dean ~~Ramuel~~ Stallones. We hope that you can participate.

Most sincerely,


Robert Bernstein, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Commissioner of Health

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FRANCINE JENSEN, M.D., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR

HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2370 RICE BOULEVARD, BOX 25249
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77005

(713) 829-1841

December 17, 1980

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and
Associate Professor of Epidemiology
School of Public Health
University of Texas Health Science
Center at Houston
P. O. Box 20186
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Dr. Buffler:

In response to your proposal to National Institute of Health for a five year population based study of intra-cranial tumors among residents of Harris and surrounding counties, we would like to offer our support and the expertise we have available for your study.

This is a particularly timely study in view of the rapid influx of new residents coupled with the increased suspicion, supported by investigation and reporting, of health problems caused by chemical pollutants, both air and water, in this area.

Sincerely,

Francine Jensen, M.D.
Francine Jensen, M. D.

mac

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068592



Public Health Department
1115 North MacGregor
Houston, Texas 77030

City of HOUSTON

JIM McCONN, MAYOR
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

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CITY CONTROLLER
KATHRYN J. WHITMIRE

December 15, 1980

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Epidemiology
University of Texas School of Public Health
P.O. Box 20186
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Dr. Buffler:

The Houston Health Department would like to offer support and whatever assistance it can make available to your proposed study of the incidences of intracranial tumors in the Texas Gulf Coast Area.

Widespread publicity about the apparent increased risk of such tumors in association with exposure to petrochemical industries has created an urgent need for more definitive research.

Your proposed study is well designed and should give us the answers we need to support additional efforts to protect the health of area residents.

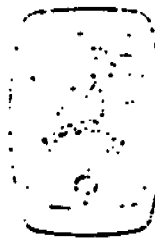
Sincerely,

Judith Craven M.D.
Judith Craven, M.D.
Director of Public Health

JC/RAM/an

UCC
068593

**LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER**
1901 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112



Department of Pathology

June 26, 1981

Patricia A. Buffler, Ph.D.
Epidemiology Research Unit
School of Public Health
The University of Texas Health
Science Center at Houston
P.O. Box 20186
Houston, Texas 77025

Dear Dr. Buffler:

In our studies of cancer epidemiology in Louisiana we have made extensive use of computer tapes supplied by the Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicles giving information about driver's license holders. We have in our hands a tape with this information up to 1978 and we do not anticipate any problems in obtaining an update of the tape if the brain cancer study is funded. The Department of Motor Vehicles updates the computer tape of driver's license holders very often and we have found in the past that the information on the tape is very reliable.

Sincerely yours,


Pelayo Correa, M.D.
Professor of Pathology

PC:ac

UCC
068594

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL CENTER

FROM: LSU Institutional Review Board

TO: John C. Finerty, Vice-Chancellor
Responsible Officer for Human Subjects
LSU Medical Center

RE: Grant Application By: Pelayo Corrae, M.D.

Entitled: Occupational Exposures and Intracranial Tumors in Coastal Texas
and Southern Louisiana - La. Component

This is to document review of the above research proposal. In the judgement of this Board, the procedures delineated in said application conform to the pertinent DHEW rules and regulations regarding use of human subjects.

THE INVESTIGATOR agrees to report to the Committee any emergent problems, serious adverse reactions, or procedural changes that may affect the status of the investigation, and that no such change will be without Board approval, except where necessary to eliminate apparent immediate hazards. The investigator also agrees to periodic review of this project by the Board at intervals appropriate to the degree of risk to assure that the new project is being conducted in compliance with the Board's understanding and recommendations.

Records regarding action of the Board, referable to said project, are on file in the office of the Chairman.

DATE OF APPROVAL: 6/23/81


Principal Investigator

DATE: 6-26-81


Mignon W. Jemel, M.D., Chairman

DATE: 6/24/81

UCC
068595

**LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER**

1901 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Department of Pathology

June 15, 1981

Ms. Susan Wood
University of Texas Health Science Center
School of Public Health
6905 Bertner
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Ms. Wood,

Dr. Pelayo Correa has asked me to communicate with you concerning our proposed pathologic studies in connection with the project "Occupational Exposures and Intracranial Tumors in Southern Louisiana and Texas—Louisiana Component". I would like to express my interest in collaborating with you. We estimate that these studies would involve recutting, staining, and examining the paraffin blocks from 500 to 600 cases over a period of three years. Our attempt would be to determine the types of tumors involved and to classify them probably utilizing the World Health Organization classification. This would involve considerable technical work as well as visits to hospital laboratories in Louisiana and a good deal of professional time in examining the many slides involved. I have submitted to Doctor Correa a budget proposal.

I believe this would be an interesting study of the pathologic features involved in neoplasms under these circumstances. We will be searching for a connection between the occurrence of brain tumors and petrochemical exposure.

I would be expecting to collaborate with pathologists in your area, exchanging slides and data.

Sincerely,


Paul McGarry, M. D.
Professor of Pathology

PMbb

cc: Dr. Correa.
Terry Fontham.

PRIVELEGED

DOCUMENT

Bates number 068597-068603 has been skipped