

**APPLIED
EPIDEMIOLOGY
INC.**



September 25, 1995

Donald Whorton, M.D.
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Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Don:

Thank you for sending a copy of the master tape (without death certificate information post 1982), which we received on Friday. As a correction to Nancy Gordon's memo to you dated September 13, 1995, all death certificate information was blocked, instead of blocking only that from the 6 or 8 states with confidentiality agreements remaining, to expedite transfer of the bulk of data to us. We trust that as soon as all states grant releases, you will forward the remaining data, or withhold information only for states not granting a release.

We will begin reading the contents of the tape immediately; however, it appears that no documentation of the files was sent to us with the tape. We would have expected to receive at least standard directories (including data audit trails) and coding manuals. As you probably know, re-creating documentation is time consuming, and may lead to errors. Please send as soon as possible any such documentation which might exist.

We also hope that the lost death certificates will be located and transferred as our agreements with the states allow, as these represent an important factor in our ability to complete the update since 1982, and a valuable resource, both from a scientific and financial perspective. So, although we should be freed from the present log jam and able to proceed with parts of the study update, we still anticipate receiving from you substantial materials produced during the previous update.

Finally, please note that our street address is Suite #90, 479 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002. We appreciate all your efforts to facilitate the transfer of the study materials, and urge you to call if we may be of any assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Mundt, Ph.D.

cc: Dr. Shah
Dr. Ramlow

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