

April 15, 1948

Miss Arlene Parks,
Frigidaire Division,
General Motors Corporation,
Dayton, Ohio.

Dear Miss Parks:

Just in case you do not have it, I am sending you a mimeographed sheet which will give you all the information that we can offer on the stain which we commonly use for blood smears.

In our experience the stock solution of stain does not deteriorate, or at least it deteriorates very slowly indeed on standing. In any case, the stock solution that we make up does not last long enough to show any marked effects of deterioration. Some slight difficulties occur from time to time, and what we do under those circumstances is indicated in the paper which I am sending you. If we should have serious difficulty with a particular batch, we should be likely to conclude that something was wrong with one or the other of the products, or that the reagent bottle had not been entirely free of some contaminating material. Certainly if we were to have serious difficulties, we would merely make up a fresh batch of stain and begin over again as you have done.

I should point out that we would not be willing to rely upon the examination of blood films as a means of estimating the risk of lead exposure in a group of men whose work involved potentially dangerous conditions. It is not possible, especially in individual cases, to arrive at any very satisfactory conclusion as to the extent of lead absorption from this procedure alone. Indeed we find that these results may be quite misleading. I am not saying that the method is without some value. I am quite prepared to say, however, that it is not to be depended upon under conditions of dubious or hazardous lead exposure.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

RAK ef

Enc.

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