

August 24, 1965

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Dear Doctor Brodie:

My attention, perhaps not remarkably, has been called by more than one of my colleagues to Reference #27 in the article entitled "Toxicology and the Biomedical Sciences," by yourself and associates, in Science 148: (No. 3677 for June 18) 154771554, 1965.

"27. It is known that . . . 2-naphthylamine and tetraethyl lead are converted to carcinogenic compounds."

I would suppose that there is, or should be, definitive evidence in support of this statement, since tetraethyllead⁴ coupled therein with beta-naphthylamine which has been so thoroughly convicted. However, I am at a loss to put my finger on any evidence, either experimental or clinical, that would render the statement credible. I would know, certainly, if there had been cases of malignancy traceable to this source in man. It is entirely possible that I have missed something in the literature, since I have been pre-occupied with many other matters in recent years. I would appreciate your courtesy if you were to enlighten me on this point. The issue is of much more than academic or scientific interest and importance.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M.D.

RAK:rms