

June 5, 1961

Dr. Shigeichi Sunahara
Tokyo National Sanatorium
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Dr. Sunahara:

Thank you very much for sending me your very interesting monographs on INH metabolism work performed in your laboratories. Enclosed you will find reprints from our own institution concerned with the subject.

My present belief is that rapid inactivators in our country receiving INH in our customary 300 mg. dose do well enough, especially when SM and PAS are given with it, so that boosting the dose to very high levels makes very little difference. When INH is given alone, however, the effect of INH inactivation and dosage have been shown in Madras and in East Africa to be important. While PAS does raise the serum concentration of free INH, it does so to only a slight degree by our methods of analysis and does not raise them as much as can be achieved by moderate elevation of INH dosage. In short, PAS acts with INH mostly by its antibacterial activity rather than its effect on INH metabolism, in my judgement. We must search for means of detecting the very rapid inactivator amongst all inactivators. I have the impression that these occur in our population in about once in 50 or 100. These people have required up to 800 mg. in a single dose to yield 0.2 mcg./ml. at 6 hours.

I hope we may stay in correspondence with each other, and do pay us a visit here in Denver when you can.

Sincerely yours,

Roger S. Mitchell, M.D.

RSM:ch

cc: Dr. Lederberg

Encs.

Thank you, Josh, for
putting us in touch -
Come see us!
Roger

SUNAHARA, S