



# The Children's Hospital Medical Center

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June 14, 1971

JUN 18 P.M.

Dr. Victor McKusick  
Professor of Medicine  
Johns Hopkins Hospital  
North Broadway & Monument St.  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Victor:

I want to thank you for the inclusion of cystic fibrosis in your program and for inviting me to participate. This was a very worthwhile experience for me. I was pleased to see both Drs. Danes and Oppenheimer. Betty did not reveal her secrets at our grand conference on cystic fibrosis which I and John Herndon organized in March of 1969, although she and Alex Bearn were present. Much has happened since then and she did a very fine job in bringing the audience up to date on the current research in cystic fibrosis. I had offered her the opportunity of looking at our patients some time ago and I do hope she will accept this. Because of the hazy state of metachromatic staining and the variations in techniques by nearly everyone who uses it, the NCFRF held a GAP conference on this subject and organized a committee on which Betty serves. The purpose is to standardize the procedure and I hope this, too, comes about soon. In this regard the comment made by Dr. Hansen in his talk is interesting. I got the impression that the best thing to do would be to get rid of toluidine blue.

When I last saw Dr. Oppenheimer at the Spring meetings in Atlantic City this year I told her of our finding a normal pancreas in one of our patients, which I considered as partial expression of the disease. It was a very heretical concept for the pathologist but I am very glad to see that she dug up eight cases out of her series of 99.

I am now putting on some finishing touches to the two presentations I made and I do hope that I will have them ready for your publication in the near future.

I failed to pick up my slides on Friday afternoon and I am sorry I had to leave early. I traveled home with Park Gerald and he, too, left his slides behind.

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I am enclosing my expense account.

Although I spent five years at Hopkins you were the first to point out the room that Osler used. I am very grateful for this.

With best regards to Dr. and Mrs. Norem and to your wife for serving as a fine hostess at a delightful dinner at the Hopkins Club. With admiration to a great man,

Sincerely yours,

  
Harry Schwachman, M.D.  
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics

HS:rl

enc.

P.S. I just heard that Dr. Chaim Sheba died on the day of the conference. You referred to his concepts.