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NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Established in 1916 by the National Academy of Sciences under its Congressional  
Charter and organized with the cooperation of the National Scientific  
and Technical Societies of the United States

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

University Hospital, 36th and Spruce Streets,  
Philadelphia, Pa., December 14, 1942.

Dr. Lewis H. Weed,  
National Research Council,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Weed:

At its meeting on December 10th, the Committee  
on Medicine received from the Subcommittee on Venereal  
Diseases the following recommendation:

HUMAN EXPERIMENTATION IN THE PROPHYLAXIS  
OF GONORRHEA IS DESIRABLE IN PRISON INMATES THROUGH  
THE COOPERATION OF STATE AUTHORITIES. THE CHAIRMAN,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON VENEREAL DISEASES, SHALL BE AUTHORIZED  
(if this recommendation is approved by NRC, CMR and  
OSRD) TO APPROACH THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES IN  
SELECTED STATES WITH A VIEW TO THE CARRYING OUT OF  
SUCH EXPERIMENTATION BY RESPONSIBLE PHYSICIANS ACTING  
UNDER OSRD CONTRACTS. THE DETAILS OF SUCH EXPERIMENT-  
ATION AND ITS RISKS SHOULD BE DRAWN UP BY A CONFERENCE,  
THE PERSONNEL OF WHICH SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE CHAIRMAN,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON VENEREAL DISEASES. THE PROPOSALS OF  
DR. CHARLES M. CARPENTER, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, AND  
DR. ALFRED M. COHN, NEW YORK CITY, INFORMALLY SUBMITTED  
TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON VENEREAL DISEASES ON DECEMBER 1,  
1942, SHALL BE APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE SUBJECT TO  
QUALIFICATIONS ARRIVED AT BY THE CONFERENCE AUTHORIZED  
ABOVE.

This was approved by the Committee on Medicine  
for transmission to the Chairman of the Division of Medical  
Sciences of the National Research Council.

Yours sincerely,

O. H. Perry Pepper, M.D., Chairman,  
Committee on Medicine.

A list of individuals suggested for invitation to this Conference  
appears in the attached letter from Doctor Moore.

*Comm. Medicine re: prisoners for experimental purposes*