

June 9, 1938

Dr. Elliott Robinson, Director
Antitoxin and Vaccine Laboratory
375 South Street
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Dear Doctor Robinson:

Because of the increase in demands upon the laboratory during the past year, both in the amount and the character of the work, it seems most desirable that there be certain changes in the conduct of the Wassermann Laboratory. They are as follows:

(1) To discontinue gonococcus fixation tests, because of the unreliability of the test in diagnosis, as a guide in treatment, and as an indication of cure.

(2) To substitute the Davies-Hinton test of the spinal fluid for the gold sol test. This recommendation is made because the Davies-Hinton test is more accurate in the detection of syphilis and does not present the difficulties which the gold sol tests do, inasmuch as the latter may give positive reactions in other neurological conditions besides syphilis.

(3) To employ three additional laboratory helpers in order to maintain the accuracy of the work. At present, our personnel cannot take the time to do this as carefully as they should because of the rushing required to get out the volume of work.

(4) To increase the expenditures for supplies and equipment, etc., by \$900.00, and

(5) To establish the position of one of the Assistant Bacteriologists on or about November 1st and to substitute a Senior Bacteriologist. This recommendation is made because the character of the work required by this position demands more training than that which has been supplied from the list of Assistant Bacteriologists. Indeed, this position should be filled by a physician who has had more than the regular course offered in our medical schools.

Dr. Robinson

6/1/36

An itemized statement of the expense which would be incurred by these recommendations is as follows:

Additional funds for equipment \$900

3 laboratory helpers \$640 \$1,920

Dr. Bacteriologist \$2,440

less 1 Asst. Bact. \$1,160

..... \$ 760

TOTAL \$4,200

Very truly yours,

William A. Hinton, M. D., Chief
Wasserman Laboratory

WAM:ML