



*Miriam Van Waters*  
Superintendent

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Department of Correction*

*Reformatory for Women*  
*Frammingham, Mass.*

August 9, 1938.

Dr. William A. Hinton  
Wassermann Laboratory  
25 Shattuck Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Hinton:

I am writing to ask your advise concerning a case which we have had under continued treatment for syphilis since 1935, and who has consistently shown positive Hinton tests.

For general information she is 28 years old, divorced, no pregnancies except for one miscarriage when about 15 years old.

In 1935, on admission to this Institution, she had a positive Hinton. She had no knowledge of syphilis prior to this, but was told that her husband was infected when she married him at the age of 14, and with whom she lived for six months. Her general physical examination is negative.

From November 1935 to September 1936 she received:

- 13 injections of Neocarsphenamine 0.3 to 0.6 grams IV.
- 18 injections of Bismuth Salicylate 0.2 grams IM.
- 1 course of KI for eight weeks, gtts X T.I.D.
- 2 courses of Mercury Protiodide grains 1/6 increasing to grains 1 1/2 daily for one month.

Upon release from the Institution treatments were continued at an outside clinic, and then she returned here for a time. Treatments (O.P.D.) she received here amounted to:

- 16 Bismuth Salicylate 0.2 grams IM.
- 1 course of Mercury Protiodide
- 1 course of Potassium Iodide.

2--letter to Dr. Hinton continued.

The patient has very poor veins and Neocarsphenamine was discontinued. She also had some reaction to it. She had gingivitis and diarrhea during Mercury treatment and this had to be discontinued for awhile. She then developed kidney irritation and was taken off Bismuth.

We would like to know the prognosis on this case. Should we continue on with treatments, and if so which medication would you advise?

It seems that all she can tolerate is the KI. Do you think there is a possibility of her Hinton<sup>bp</sup> coming negative?

Any advice you can give us on this case will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

*Grace E. Tiffany*  
Grace E. Tiffany, M.D.

T/cw



August 28, 1938.

Dr. Grace B. Tiffany,  
Reformatory for Women,  
Framingham, Mass.

Dear Dr. Tiffany:

In reply to your letter of August 8th in regard to your 28 year old divorcee, I wish to say that, assuming that she is entirely asymptomatic as I judge from your letter, the chances of her having a further outbreak of syphilis, on the basis of the treatment that you have already given her, are slender.

I would think that a lumbar puncture was indicated, and if this is negative, I would be inclined to regard her as a 'serum fast' case and withhold treatment, but would continue to observe her and to institute prompt treatment if any signs of active syphilis should arise.

I do not know whether or not I have completely answered your question. If I have not, please do not hesitate to write me.

Very truly yours,

William A. Winton, M.D., Chief,  
Wassermann Laboratory.

WAW/RS