



**SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER
TUMOR INSTITUTE**

1221 - 1225 Madison Street Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 386-2323
In State Only (800) 422-4547
FAX (206) 386-2729

September 6, 1996

RECEIVED

SEP 12 1996

INVESTIGATIONS

Bill N. Crowell
Health Care Investigator
Department of Health
Medical Investigations Unit
1300 SE Quince Street
PO Box 47866
Olympia WA 98504-7866

RE: FILE # 95-02-0060MD

FILE # 95-02-0061MD

Dear Mr. Crowell:

I am writing to you per our discussion of earlier today in which you asked me to put on paper the substance of the **chat we had** regarding the complaint by

During this period approximately twelve years ago, I was the chairman of the Institutional Review Board at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. At that time, our group included _____ as one of the representatives from FHCRC. _____ raised the question of whether conflict of interest might exist

in the choice of drugs and experimental protocols at FHCRC and whether some protocols had been continued with experimental drugs beyond the point where it was clear that they were not beneficial. He alleged at that time that the reasons for these alleged problems was that a number of members of the FHCRC faculty, including Dr. John A. Hansen and Dr. Edward D. Thomas, owned stock in the company or companies that produced the drugs used in these studies. While it was not the specific role of our committee to be an investigative committee, we did feel that we were entrusted with reviewing the ethical issues regarding experimental protocols at FHCRC. As a result, I verbally talked with a number of people on FHCRC staff as to whether this was a problem. I officially sent a letter to Dr. Thomas stating that these allegations had been made and that the committee would appreciate the opportunity to talk with him about the situation. **The people that I talked with informally at**

Director

Donald W. Tosh, M.D.

Pain Management

Stuart L. DuPen, M.D.

Medical Oncology

Erin D. Ellis, M.D.
Gary E. Goodman, M.D., M.S.
Henry G. Kaplan, M.D.
Michael S. Miller, M.D.
Saul E. Rivkin, M.D.
Edward L. Weber, M.D.

Radiation Oncology

Todd A. Barmen, M.D.
John C. Black, M.D.
James R. Eltringham, M.D.
Peter D. Grimm, D.D.
Timothy P. Maus, M.D.

John E. Sylvester, M.D.
Donald W. Tosh, M.D.
Alan S. Tesler, M.D.
Sandra S. Vermeulen, M.D.

Page 2

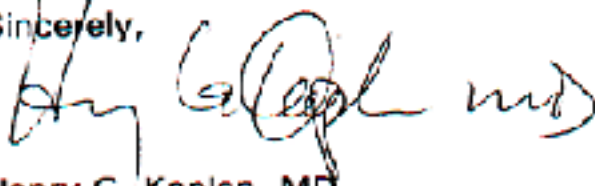
File # 95-02-0060MD
95-02-0061MD

September 6, 1996

FHCRC denied that there was any substance to them and declined to discuss them with the committee. Dr. Thomas wrote a one sentence letter of reply to me in which he stated that there were no conflict of interest issues regarding any protocols to FHCRC and he also declined to talk with the committee. It was shortly after that, that I left the committee, as I rotated off after my two year commitment and I left this issue for my successors on the Institutional Review Board.

As a result, I am aware that this accusation was made, but I really am in no position to have a substantive opinion as to whether or not the accusations carry any validity. I would be very anxious to hear what the results of your investigations are. If I can be of any further help, I would be happy to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry G. Kaplan, MD". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Henry G. Kaplan, MD

HGK:bac