DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

August 11, 1976

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Nils A. Normann, M. D. Cardiovascular Engineering Laboratories Baylor College of Medicine 6535 Fannin, B-201 Houston, Texas 77025 Tree Tronter

Dear Dr. Normann:

I view your August 5, 1976 letter as basically an inquiry regarding the developing area of "Technology Transfer." I and others have made a number of presentations on that subject which I believe speaks to your concern. I am attaching four of what I consider the better papers for your review.

Sincerely yours,

Norman J. Latker Patent Counsel

4 Enclosures

HEW/OS/GCB NJLatker/ack 8-11-76

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August 5, 1976

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Mr. Norman J. Latker, Patent Counsel Office of the General Counsel Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Office of the Secretary Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Latker:

Having recently initiated the submission of three Disclosures and Petitions to your Office, I have increasingly become concerned about the general problem of assimilation of new technology into bio-medicine. Since inventions and patents, evolving from Federal funding, are highly relevant to this problem, I venture addressing this inquiry to you and your Office.

The overall aim of Federal policy, as stated in the Petition Outline, is clear: to ensure that an invention be "adequately and quickly developed for widest use". What is not clear to me are the mechanisms by which this may be achieved in practice. Working in an academic, medical environment, I am greatly interested in the fate of disclosures and particularly in the extent to which Government agencies can facilitate the development of a given invention, intra- or extra-murally.

It appears to me that much time may be lost unnecessarily in the development process. If there are optional, facilitating avenues which we can utilize, I would be most grateful for an orientation and your guidance.

Sincerely yours,

Nils A. Normann, M.D.

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