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MEDICAL CORPORATION

Spine Task Force
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NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

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March 7, 1988

Stewart B. Dunsker, M.D.
551 Abilene Trail
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

Dear Stewart:

Several weeks ago, I had the opportunity of meeting with a number of physicians serving on a task force to revise the AMA Guides on Impairment. My specific assignment was Chronic Pain. Several orthopedic surgeons were in attendance developing revised guidelines on impairment concerning the spine. One of these was Tom Mayer, who spoke to me at great length about developing a closer working relationship with Neurosurgery.

Enclosed is a copy of Tom's letter to me concerning this matter. I am not certain of how to proceed from here. However, his idea of developing a closer liaison between Orthopedic Surgery and Neurosurgery in the area of spinal care certainly makes sense. I understand that there are some caveats; however, I believe that the offer is sincere. In any event, I wonder if you might have any thoughts about this subject and I would like to hear from you.

Incidentally, since some of the discussion on the spine had major implications as far as Neurosurgery is concerned, I urged the AMA to contact the AANS, and specifically, the Section on Spinal Disorders. Neurosurgical input in developing the AMA Guides is certainly necessary, since I was the only neurosurgeon at the task force meeting and my task specifically was pain and not spinal disorders.

With best regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

Philipp M. Lippe, M.D., FACS

PML:bvk

cc: Edward S. Connolly, M.D.
George W. Sypert, M.D.

Enclosure

Edward S. Connolly