

Hyperkineses
"Wender"

October 13, 1978

Dr. Esther H. Wender
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
The University of Utah
Medical Center
Salt Lake City, Utah 84132

Dear Esther:

Thanks so much for your good note of October 2nd, which must have come by covered wagon -- it just arrived in my office!

We are promptly sending to you and all members of the Committee all of the material that we have gleaned thus far. Some of this will be duplicates for you and Morry Lipton.

We are also beginning to canvas groups to see when we might be able to meet to consolidate a review and report.

I talked to Swanson and Kinsbourne's group briefly in Toronto the other day. I am somewhat concerned about the magnitude of the dose given unaccompanied by food which I think likely would produce some discomfort in some children, and thereby aggravate any sort of behavior that might be judged as abnormal. Furthermore, I would like to know more about how it was possible to assure that the child was unaware that he was receiving the color despite the chocolate coating on the capsule. It is very easy to chew into a capsule and thereby be aware of the content. In fact, this was a common fallacy of one of the vitamin C studies done at the NIH.

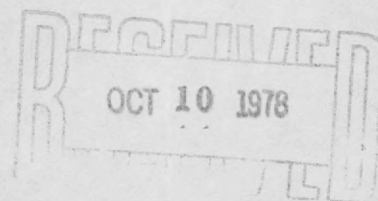
Warm best regards,

Sincerely,

William J. Darby, M.D., Ph.D.
President

WJD/ed

cc: Dr. Morris Lipton



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



October 2, 1978

MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

William J. Darby, M.D., Ph.D.
President, The Nutrition Foundation, Inc.
489 5th Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Bill:

I received the preliminary report by Swanson and Kinsbourne. I saw an earlier version of this paper sent to me by John Wacker, with whom I have an active correspondence regarding our differences in interpretation of the food additive free diet studies. This most recent version is much better written in the introductory sections. These studies are worthy, I think, of being considered seriously, though I find the results so far less than over powering. Their findings seem similar to the short term affects on the sustained attention task reported by Conners et.al., though it is interesting that the dose of food colorings had to be about seven times as large as the one Conners used to show any affects. These authors say nothing about the questionnaire data which is unfortunate since this finding, though interesting, may have no disearnable affect on overall behavior. In the area of technical details, I am concerned about how these latency age children swallowed the chocolate covered capsules and whether the concentrated color would show up on the mouth or tongue or, for that matter, in the stools. In our study of salicylates and placebo some families reported breaking open the capsule and tasting the contents in a game of trying to out-fox the researchers. Presumably, in a hospital setting, this would not pose any problems.

These are my only comments on their work so far.

Sincerely yours,

Esther H. Wender, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

EHW/ph

cc Morris Lipton, M.D., Ph.D.