July 14, 1982

7-14-82

Special Assistant to the Director, NIH

Organization of Working Group

Members, Kaposi Sarcoma Working Group*

In response to a suggestion from the Deputy Director, NCI, Dr. James Wyngaarden has asked that this group be established, and that I chair it. A copy of his memo on the subject is enclosed.

This working group is not intended to pre-empt the responsibilities of the concerned Institutes with respect to performing or sponsoring scientifically meritorious research on this perplexing epidemic. Its primary function will be to assure a ready channel for the exchange of information among investigators studying the problem, since time may be of the essence in limiting the number of lives lost, and to provide a means for making NIH expertise related to this investigation available to other federal, State, and local agencies concerned with the outbreak.

Dr. Kenneth Sell has agreed to co-chair the working group, and will assume full responsibility while I am on vacation July 26 through August 20, except for the week of August 16, when he will also be on leave. If the need appears to exist, we shall ask some other member to cover during that period.

To begin the process of information exchange, I am enclosing copies of a number of recent publications related to the epidemic. Since a number of the journal articles are lengthy, and most of you will have read them already in any case, I have copied only the summary page of several. Any member who has not read an article, does not have easy access to it, and wants a full copy from my office should call me or Ms. Garner at 496-1105. I am not planning to distribute future numbers of MMWR, but urge each of you who may not already receive it from CDC to request that your name be added to their mailing list.

I shall also attempt to set up a meeting within the next few days, if it can be done, in which we shall be able to hear from Drs. Goedert and Masur on the current investigations they are pursuing, and from those who attended the meeting in New York on July 13, 1982, if any important new information came to light there.

/s/ R. S. Gordon, Jr., M.D.
Robert S. Gordon, Jr., M.D.

Attachments
cc: Dr. James Wyngaarden, NIH
Dr. James Curran, CDC
RSG:neg
Official

SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE
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