Dr. Albert B. Sabin  
Children's Hospital Research Foundation  
Elland Avenue and Bethesda  
Cincinnati, Ohio  

Dear Dr. Sabin:

In March 1950 the Surgeon General appointed an intra-service Committee on Communicable Disease Reporting to review the whole field of national morbidity reporting and to make recommendations for improvement. The stimulus for initiating this action came from a resolution of the Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers in October 1949. Dr. Halbert Dunn, Director, National Office of Vital Statistics, is Chairman of this committee.

The CDC representatives on this committee have been assigned the responsibility of preparing "a first draft of a minimum list of reportable diseases with justifications." A draft of this subcommittee's report is attached. We would like to request your review and critical comments.

We recognize our limitations in this whole controversial field and believe the informed reactions of a number of qualified epidemiologists essential. For these reasons we are asking your help.

It should be emphasized that the present report is a working draft prepared primarily for focusing the attention of various Public Health Service officers on the issues. When agreement has been reached with the Service, Dr. Dunn plans to present the finished report to the State and Territorial Health Officers and to the American Public Health Association for their consideration.

The present draft, therefore, should be considered confidential and "within the family." We are sending it to you in your capacity as Consultant to CDC. Since a critical study and preparation of comments may take considerable time, we consider the service you may render as active duty and are prepared to compensate you at the regular per diem rate.

A meeting of the full committee is planned about October 1st. We would appreciate receiving your comments prior to this date.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander D. Langmuir, M.D.  
Chief, Epidemiologic Services

[Handwritten note:]

Dear Dr. Sabin,

Here is one place where our consultants can be of very real help. Other places will develop rapidly.

Att. I believe.  

[Signature]

[Signature]
In the same category as influenza:

Encephalitis & encephalomyelitis

a) Following other infections

measles
varicella
rubella
mumps

b) Associated with bacterial infections

state which (e.g. meningitis, otitis media, respiratory, etc.)

c) Specific viral

AIDS, WEE, etc. appears

Other — Tularaemia, Trench fever, etc.

Etiology undetermined

followed by Perkin's 2nd disease

Aseptic meningitis

Etiology undetermined

Due to group A, B, or C meningococci, etc.

Eliminate Epstein-Barr

A diagnosis of the first committee is deemed poor precedent for many.

Additional assessment your company prior to this.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]