

17 MAY

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, SIPS Task Force

SUBJECT : MEDSIGN Design

REFERENCE : MEDSIGN Design Requirements Statement, dated  
16 December 1970

As requested, the referent statement has been reviewed. As you know, the OMS Medical Systems Development Officer (Dr. [REDACTED]) has the staff responsibility within OMS for systems matters such as the proposed MEDSIGN, and it was for this reason that I asked him to confer with you and to convey our position on the matter. As a result of the meetings between [REDACTED] and yourself and staff, I would summarize our position on the MEDSIGN design plan as follows:

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We concur in the MEDSIGN design plan provided the following revisions are made:

- a. OMS Chart Number and Locator Information should be accessible only to OMS personnel, should be obtainable only from a terminal located in OMS, and to obtain this information the user in the OMS terminal must know and use the correct "passwords".
- b. These passwords for MEDSIGN should be controlled by individual(s) in the Office of Computer Services other than those OCS individual(s) who are knowledgeable of the MEDSIGN file structure.
- c. Peripheral hardware to create hard copy from MEDSIGN should be located in OMS. Also, OMS should be the only location where such hard copy would link OMS Chart and Locator information with individual names, SSNs and administrative dispositions. This we believe necessary in order to limit and control the use of confidential medical information.

SECRET



SUBJECT: MEDSIGN Design

d. With reference to conversion, it is our estimate that we could provide administrative disposition data at one time on individuals we have evaluated during the preceding 18 months. Locator information would have to be handled as an on-going process.

e. OMS should, as a user, participate with HRS/SIPS in any decisions involving terminals or other hardware for OMS (This is in contrast to the unilateral decision by HRS/SIPS proposed on page 23 of the plan). We also believe that hardware will be required for our medical facility in the Ames Building as well as in the Headquarters Building.

f. It is premature at this time to provide for the inclusion of immunization information in the MEDSIGN plan. We believe further discussion is required and propose that officials of your task force meet with [REDACTED] and those OMS officials involved in immunization to review this point.

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[REDACTED]  
JOHN R. TIETJEN, M. D.  
Director of Medical Services

OMS/ExO/[REDACTED]:jv (12May71)

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