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10 June 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Medical Services

SUBJECT : Office of Medical Services Counseling Services

1. Appreciation is expressed to the Committee on Counseling for its initial efforts in conceptualizing a counseling program. The Committee's suggestions and recommendations have been given careful consideration and it is recognized that these provide a workable approach to a unified functional concept.

2. Over the past several months I personally have grown a little less eager to develop immediately a fully established counseling program. My hesitation is a reflection of an awareness of our already somewhat burdened load of requirements and the prospect that such level of burden will continue. In this regard, the use of a committee or group to accomplish counseling on a case basis might well strain available supplies of manpower. It would seem preferable, if at all possible, that simpler techniques and resources be utilized.

3. Consistent with the general attitude of conserving our manpower there may be some advantage in limiting the immediate scope of our services. If our services were concerned primarily with supervisor-employee problems perhaps phases of development would permit enlarging the scope in proportion to need and capabilities.

4. I would appreciate the Committee's giving additional consideration to these observations. I would be happy to meet with the Committee at anytime if such action would prove helpful. It is understood that our exchange of observations does not intentionally alter the counseling considerations of the Committee on Alcoholism.


JOHN R. TIETJEN, M.D.
Director of Medical Services

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Attachment:

DD/MS memo to D/MS, subject as
above, dtd 13 May 65

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