

[Inter-Department Memo, Feb. 13, 1961]

To: Department of Medical Research.
From: Wm. J. Phelan, #48727, Houston, Texas.
Subject: MER/29 of Dr. Salinger.

1. Age—50, Sex—M, dentist
2. Diag. Prim:
Coronary heart attack
Elevated cholesterol
3. MER/29 dosage range
Can be obtained from Harry Davis, #48767, who calls on Dr. Salinger.
4. Reason patient taken off MER/29:
 1. Severe generalized ichthyosis
 2. Loss of scalp hair
 3. Definite lightening of color of hair, eyebrows, etc.
 4. Virtual lack of beard now, needs to shave but once a week
 5. "Zero" libido
 6. Severe and extremely painful monillial mold type dermatitis in groin, armpits and folds of arms.
5. I found the above information from Dr. Herman Schultz, 806 Hermann Prof Bldg, while talking to him in his office today. This patient was referred to him by Dr. Alfons Salinger, 2212 Calumet. Since Harry Davis calls on Dr. Salinger routinely Harry had received a carbon copy of a letter written by Dr. Salinger to Merrell in Cincinnati dated January 30, 1961, concerning this patient. It is my understanding that Dr. McMaster talked to Dr. Salinger today by phone and also has the note Dr. Salinger wrote in January.
6. Dr. Schultz reported that the patient was "just not doing well at all" in the hospital. The patient did not seem to respond to usual procedures and medications for the dermatitis he has developed.

HOUSTON, TEX., Feb. 16, 1961.

WILLIAM S. MERRELL CO.
Cincinnati, Ohio

GENTLEMEN: It has come to my attention that several cases of severe alopecia have occurred in this area from the use of MER-29.

Today, one of my colleagues showed me a case in which there was extensive alopecia, change in the color of the hair, severe skin reaction with secondary monilia infection.

Do you have any additional information regarding these skin reactions? If you do, please advise me as soon as possible, as I have a number of patients taking this preparation.

Thank you for your courtesy.

Yours truly,

H. JULIAN FRACHTMAN, M.D.

[Inter-Department Memo, Feb. 17, 1961]

To: Dr. Robert S. Shelton.
From: Frank N. Getman.

DEAR BOB: I certainly did appreciate your kind letter on my recent promotion—and also greatly appreciate the advice and suggestions you have recently been giving Harold Werner on some of our more troublesome research projects. By staying with them, we are bound to come up with the answer.

The excerpt you sent me from the February 11 issue of *The Medical Tribune* made interesting reading as I hadn't yet had an opportunity to see that issue. As you are probably aware, that panel of experts is "anti" everything unless they have the idea for initiating the project. Their remarks are just about what you would expect.

From the comments of several of our people, however, I understand that you distributed this excerpt rather widely. We want all of our people to be informed and kept up to date, but in a field as controversial as atherosclerosis and the lowering of cholesterol, we try to pass on the information with a positive, objective appraisal from management. Accordingly, I would appreciate your going