

October 30, 1956

Mr. William A. Troynham
Assistant Hospital Administrator
Sydenham Hospital
123rd Street & Manhattan Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Troynham:

The City of Chicago is currently investigating the adequacy of present "public" hospital facilities. There has been some mention of hospitals such as Sydenham which are publicly owned but staffed completely or in part by private physicians who admit their private patients.

Assuming that the above description generally defines the structure of your hospital, could you aid us by providing answers to the following questions?

1. What were the original financial arrangements by which Sydenham passed into public ownership?
2. How was the original "Board" and medical staff selected, when public control was established? Was there complete carry-over of personnel and Board or did public ownership alter the previous selections?
3. Are all beds reserved for "private" patients or are some reserved for "welfare" or "public" cases?
4. Are there any special or unique obligations required of staff doctors which would not be prevalent in "private" hospitals?
5. What has been the reaction of the local AMA to the Sydenham arrangement?
6. Is Sydenham the only hospital in the City with this unique structure? Can you provide us with the names of other hospitals, anywhere in the country, with a similar structure of public ownership while "privately" staffed, completely or in part?

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The above, and any other pertinent information you feel might be of value, will certainly be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John L. McKnight, Assistant
Community Services Department

JLMcK/dlr