



Health and Hospitals Governing Commission of Cook County  
1900 W. Polk Street, Chicago, Illinois 60612 (312) 633-7425

Nagendran

May 8, 1978

Dr. T. Nagendran  
Chief of Surgery  
Veterans Administration Hospital  
Tuskegee, Alabama 36083

Dear Dr. Nagendran,

I should have written to you earlier but I had taken additional time to get more definitive information with reference to your residency program in surgery. First of all my talk with Dr. Sherrod brought out the opinion that it would not be good strategy at this time to speak to the President of the University of Alabama about our problem. My serious thinking about the problem as I see it leads me to say the following:

The tragic loss of practically all of the internists in the Department of Medicine in one year would seem to put you in a rather awkward position, or certainly a most difficult position building up the surgical residency program. This is because I believe that a reasonably strong medical set up is essential to building up a strong residency program in surgery. Certainly I believe you would have to at least show the presence of people active in medicine. However, this is not to say that you should halt your efforts in working toward your goals in surgery. I recall that you had a couple of clinical clerks from Howard University Medical School. It may be that to start with it would be easier for a few years to try to get a residency program or at least a trial interchange with Howard and work up to the point where you could say to the University of Alabama we have something to contribute to you as well as the contributions which you can contribute to medical education which is primarily minority oriented at Tuskegee.

I also talked with Dr. Asa Yancey and he as a member of your advisory board was pleased at the interest which I expressed in the programs at Tuskegee. I will gladly continue to be in touch and to try recruitment efforts in the Chicago area for both Surgery and Internal Medicine.

With sincerest regards to your madame, your secretary, and yourself.

Sincerely yours,

*L. Berry*  
Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.

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