

AFFIDAVIT

In the Matter of A Rule-Making Proceeding Concerning Laetrile:

My name is Susan J. Mellette, M.D. and I am an Associate Professor of Medical Oncology at the Medical College of Virginia. For over twenty years, I have also engaged in an active practice essentially limited to patients with metastatic malignant diseases. I have also been involved in responsible positions at the national level such as serving as president in 1975 of the American Association for Cancer Education, an organization of medical and dental school faculty members interested in cancer teaching in these professional schools. A copy of my curriculum vitae is attached.

My views on the substance Laetrile are based on reports of the ineffectiveness of amygdalin which have been published in the standard scientific literature and also on two books and other printed materials put out by proponents of Laetrile which I have read. In the latter, I have found only unsubstantiated testimonials and hearsay in the patient reports and so-called scientific arguments which reach unwarranted conclusions without appropriate experimental methodology.

Furthermore, adverse effects on my own patients can be attributed to the publicity currently being given Laetrile. An atmosphere of trust and confidence and a continuing high level of patient-physician rapport is essential to good management of the patient with advanced cancer. In over twenty years of practice, such rapport and understanding has been almost invariably achieved. This is now sometimes threatened by the attempts of Laetrile proponents to discredit proven methods of treatment; and patients come in telling me that they have read that physicians "cut, burn and poison" unnecessarily. We as physicians may be put in the position of having to defend ourselves against statements which are not only irrational but slanderous. It is not too difficult for the surgeon to demonstrate disease-free survival statistics for many cancers. The medical oncologist readily admits that anti-tumor chemotherapy may only temporarily halt the disease or may even be ineffective. There is, however, ordinarily, sufficient chance of benefit to justify such treatment and its side effects which are often quite minimal. Were we so inclined, it would be an easy thing to obtain many, many "testimonials" which would make even the most enthusiastic of the Laetrile reports seem very insignificant by comparison.

The damage which is being done involves not only those patients who may not obtain a potentially beneficial treatment because they opt for Laetrile but also those who receive accepted medical treatment but come to it with preconceived notions of the "horrors of chemotherapy". Long experience has shown that the degree to which the patient experiences side effects such as nausea and vomiting may be directly related to his expectation of such a reaction. I believe strongly in the patient's participation in the treatment of his disease, in his right to know what he is receiving and what the effect may be. The arguments, however, advanced by Laetrile proponents for "freedom of choice" are based on fallacious reasoning. Intelligent choices depend on knowledge and not emotionalism. In our society, the choices of one affect us all. Choosing Laetrile can be likened to choosing to go the wrong way down a one way street.

Subscribed and sworn this the 21st day of April, 1977.

Susan J. Mellette
M.D. Public

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CURRICULUM VITAE

MELLETTTE, M. SUSAN J.

B. Raleigh, North Carolina 6/4/22
Social Security #241-30-8522
Home: 1502 Wilmington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23227
Phone: 804 359-9049
Office: Ground Floor, MCV North Hospital, Phone: 804 770-4155
Married, two (2) children, B.D.: 1954 and 1958.

EDUCATION:

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio, M.D., 1947
University of Pennsylvania Medical School, 1944
University of North Carolina Graduate School (Biochemistry) '42-'43
Meredith College, Raleigh, N. D., A.B., 1942, Cum Laude.

POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING:

Damon Runyon Cancer Research Fellow, Medical College of Va. '57-'58
Research Fellow, National Institutes of Health, MCV '55-'57
Resident in Internal Medicine, Koch Hosp., City of St. Louis '52-'54
Resident in Internal Medicine, St. Barnabas Hospital for
Chronic Diseases, New York, New York. '49-'51
Intern, Cleveland City Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. '47-'48

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, MCV '69 -
Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, MCV '62-'69
Assistant Research Professor, Internal Medicine, MCV '60-'62
Research Associate in Internal Medicine, MCV '58-'60
Research Associate, Institute for Medical Research
University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky '52
Samuel Fels Research Assistant in Biological Chemistry,
University of North Carolina '42-'43

MEMBERSHIP- SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

American Association for Cancer Education - President 1975.
American Federation of Clinical Oncologic Societies,
Member Board of Governors
Association of American Medical Colleges
American Association for Advancement of Sciences
New York Academy of Science
Virginia Academy of Sciences
AMA, Medical Society of Virginia, Richmond Academy of Medicine
American Medical Women's Assoc., Faculty Advisor- MCV Chapter

MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Board Member, Virginia Division, American Cancer Society '70-'72
Board Member, Richmond Area Unit, American Cancer Society '58-
Member, Advisory Committee on Health Careers,
Virginia State College
Advisory Board, The Women's Bank, Richmond, Virginia

ECIAE AWARDS

Horsley Memorial Award, Va. Division, American Cancer Society 1974
 Award of Merit, Virginia Division, American Cancer Society 1967
 Distinguished Alumna Award - Meredith College, 1976

JOB COMMITTEES

University, MCV-VCU: Medical College Admissions Committee '61-
 Hospital Utilization Committee '72-
 Cancer Center Council '74-
 Chairman, Subcommittee on Cancer
 Rehabilitation of MCV Cancer Center
 VCU Image Committee '76-

STATE: Professional Education Committee, Virginia Division '70-'72
 American Cancer Society

NATIONAL: NIH-NCI -Clinical Cancer Education Committee '74-
 American Association for Cancer Education:
 Chairman, Executive Committee '75
 Advisory Committee '75-
 Chairman, Committee on Cancer Teaching
 in Medical Schools '72-'74
 Chairman, Committee on Public Relations '71-'72
 American Federation of Clinical Oncologic Societies:
 Executive Committee of Board of Governors '76-
 Committee on Constitution and By-Laws '74-

OTHER RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Principal Investigator of the following grants or contracts:

NCI-N01-CN-45144: "Development and Utilization of
 Rehabilitation and Continuing Care Resources
 and Services for Cancer Patients." 6/74-
 NIH CA 05736: "Hormonal Actions of K Vitamins.
 Relation to Neoplasia." '61-'66
 American Cancer Society Institutional Grant to MCV '62-'65
 NIH CT-496: Undergraduate Cancer Teaching Grant to MCV '62-'65
 U.S. Army Contract DA-49-00-MD-951 '58-'61

Associate Principal Investigator:

N01-CN-55191: Review of Cancer Education in U.S. Medical
 and Dental Schools - Contract to AACE '75-

* Consultant: NCI Contract to Dept. of Continuing Education,
 University of Iowa, on Evaluation of Cancer
 Teaching Programs '75-

Project Workable-"Facilitating Employment of Work-Able
 Cancer Patients." NIH Contract to Human
 Resources Research Organization '75-

Coordinator, Program on Clinical Cancer Services and Rehabilitation
 of MCV Cancer Center '74-

Director, Division of Cancer Studies and Tumor Clinic, MCV '61-'66
 Cancer Coordinator, Medical College of Virginia '61-'66
 Member, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group '67-

LICENSURE: Ohio, New York, Kentucky, and Virginia(License #12142)
 Diplomate, National Board of Medical Examiners, 1952.

*Consultant: Assessment of Manpower Needs in Selected Clinical Oncology Specialties.
 NCI Contract to Geomet. 1976.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

SUSAN J. MELLETTTE, M. D.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS (partial list)

1. Mellette, Susan J., Brodsky, William A., and Palmer, Lee Jr.: A rapid modification of the Brucine Method for Determination of Nitrates in Biological Fluids. *J. Lab and Clin. Med.*, 41: 963: 1953.
2. Mellette, Susan J., and Agress, Harry: Toxic Reaction to Para-aminosalicylic acid and Isoniazid Accompanied by Leukopenia and Atypical Lymphocytosis. *Am. Rev. Tuberc.*, 69: 824-828, 1954.
3. Leone, L.A., Hahn, Henry B., Mellette, Susan J.: Studies of the Effect of Perthane on Spontaneous and Transplanted Mammary Carcinoma in the C5H Mouse. *Cancer Research*, 18: 1161-1166, 1958.
4. Leone, Louis A., Harnsberger, L.C., Nolley, F.D., and Mellette, Susan J.: Clinical Studies of Triethylene Thiophosphoramidate in the Treatment of Advanced Neoplastic Disease. *Annals, New York Academy of Science*, 68: 1081-1090, 1958.
5. Mellette, Susan J., and Leone, Louis A.: Influence of Age, Sex, Strain of Rat and Fat Soluble Vitamins on Hemorrhagic Syndromes in Rats fed Irradiated Beef. *Federation Proceedings (Symposium Issue)*, 19: 1045-1049, 1960.
6. Mellette, Susan J.: The Management of Disseminated Malignant Disease. *Virginia Medical Monthly*, 87: 579-580, 1960.
7. Mellette, Susan J.: Interrelationships Between Vitamin K and Estrogenic Hormones. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 9: 109-116, 1961.
8. Mellette, Susan J.: Management of Malignant Disease Metastatic to Bone by Hormonal Alterations. *Clinical Orthopaedics*, 75: 73-88, 1970
9. Wampler, G. L., Mellette, S. J., Kuperminc, K., and Regelson, W.: Hexamethylmelamine (NSC-15875) in the Treatment of Advanced Cancer. *Cancer Chemotherapy Reports Part 1*, 56, No. 4: 505-514, 1972.
10. Pariser, Robert J., Munson, Albert E., and Mellette, Susan J.: Potentiation of Cortisone-Induced RES Suppression in Mice by Vitamin K. *Journal of the Reticuloendothelial Society*, 13: 319-324, 1973.
11. Mellette, Susan J., Cancer Chemotherapy: Implications for the Dentist, *Archives of Foundation of Thanatology*, 5: 251-256, 1971.

CURRICULUM VITAE

SUSAN J. MELLETTE, M.D.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS (partial list) (continued)

12. Mellette, Susan J.: Non-Hormonal Management of Advanced Breast Carcinoma- Chemotherapy, in Topics in Clinical Oncology - Breast Carcinoma p. 74-82, Syllabus, Am. College of Physicians Post-Graduate Course, 1975.
13. Mellette, Susan J., Interdisciplinary Teams in the Home Care of the Cancer Patient, Proc. Found. Than. 1:10, 1976.
14. Mellette, Susan J., Health Care for the Aged -- The Medical Viewpoint, Humanities in Health Care, Symposium Proceedings, Va. Found. for the Humanities and Public Policy, et. als, 1976 - Impress.
15. Mellette, Susan J.: Who Takes the Blame for Side Effects? Combination Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy. Archives Found. Than. 6: 69, 1977

CURRICULUM VITAE

SUSAN J. MELLETTE, M.D.

ABSTRACTS

1. Mellette, Susan J., and Leone, Louis A.: Studies of some Physiologic and Clinical Conditions Associated with Increased Fibrinolytic Activity in the Blood. Proc. Va. Acad. Science, 7: 334, 1956.
2. Leone, Louis A., Hansbarger, Clark, and Mellette, Susan J.: Perthane (Q-137) Administration to the C5H Mouse and Its Effect on C5H/BA Mammary Carcinoma. Va. J. Science, 7: 6, 1956.
3. Brown, R. E., Gander, G. W., and Mellette, Susan J.: The Estrogenic Properties of Menadiol Diphosphate. Federation Proceedings, 24: 162, 1965.
4. Mellette, Susan J., Pariser, R. J., and Munson, A.E.: Potentiation of Cortisone-Induced RES Suppression by Vitamin K. Ninth Annual National Meeting of the Reticuloendothelial Society, 13-15, 1972.
5. Wampler, G.I. Schultz, J., Mellette, Susan J., Regelson, W. and King, E.R.: Combinations of 5 Fluorouracil and Cyclophosphamide in L1210 Leukemia and in Clinical Cancer. Proc. of XI International Cancer Congress, Florence, Italy, 1974.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Emotional Care of the Cancer Patient, eds., Kutscher, A., Heinemann, H.O., Herter, Frederic, Goldberg, I.: Health Sciences Publishing Corp., -in Press.

Chapters: Relegation or responsibility for total Patient Care.
Emotional Considerations in the Treatment of Cancer.
The Choice of Modality of Therapy.

"Health Careers: Seeking to achieve the previously impossible"
in Going to College Handbook, XXI:15, ed.; Aubrey N. Brown, Jr.,
Outlook Publishers, Richmond, Va., 1976.

EXHIBIT

"A Study of Cancer Teaching in American Medical Schools."
XI International Cancer Congress, Florence, Italy, 1974.

Book Chapters: The Terminal Patient
eds. Kutscher, A., & Schoenberg, B., Columbia University Press, 1973.
Chapter: Cancer Chemotherapy.