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Donald H. Rockwell, M. D.  
Venereal Disease Research Laboratory  
Communicable Disease Center  
United States Public Health Service  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

June  
11  
1965

Dear Dr. Rockwell:

I have recently read your paper on the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis appearing in the Archives of Internal Medicine in December, 1964.

I am utterly astounded by the fact that physicians allow patients with potentially fatal disease to remain untreated when effective therapy is available. I assume you feel that the information which is extracted from observation of this untreated group is worth their sacrifice. If this is the case, then I suggest that the United States Public Health Service and those physicians associated with it in this study need to re-evaluate their moral judgements in this regard.

Yours sincerely,



IRWIN J. SCHATZ, M. D.  
Head, Section of  
Peripheral Vascular Disease

IJS:cao