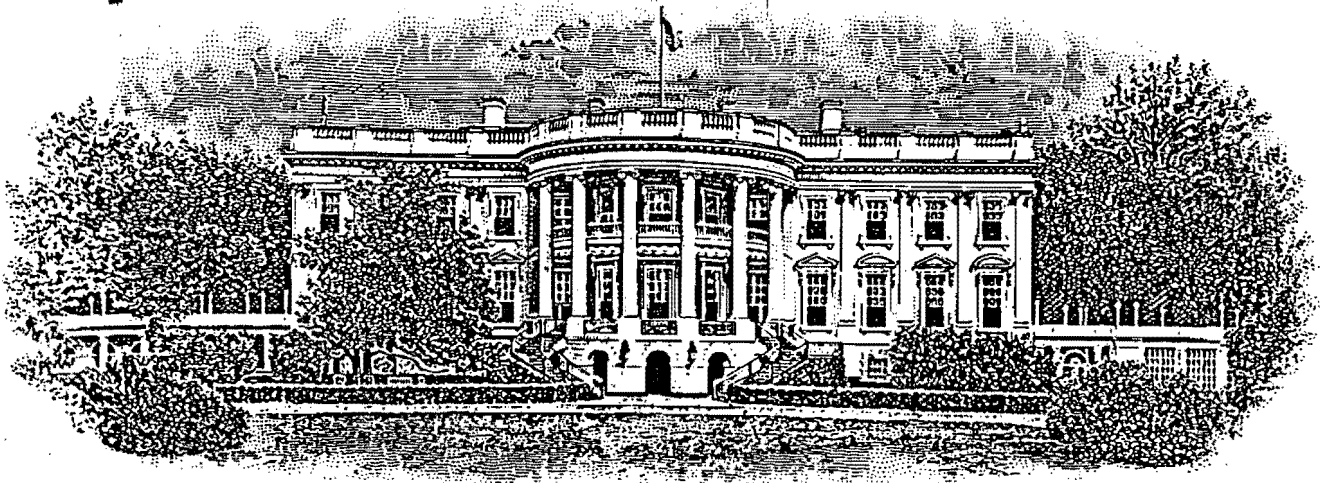


The White House



DOMESTIC POLICY

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Jack ebeler

FAX NUMBER: 690-7383

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

FROM: Chris Jennings

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): _____

COMMENTS: Please coordinate a more detailed response to Ms. New from HHS. BCC a copy to us. Thanks!!

THE WHITE HOUSE

November 8, 1996

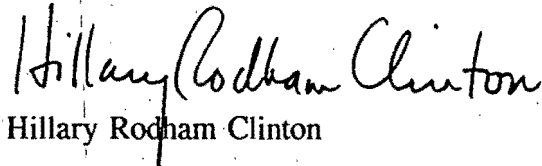
Maria I. New, M.D.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Pediatrics
The New York Hospital
Room N-237
525 East 68th Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Dr. New:

Thank you for your letter, vitae, and thoughts on pediatric health policy. I enjoyed visiting with you in New York and appreciate your generous offer of assistance on programs benefitting our nation's children. A member of my staff will be calling to discuss these issues further.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: Chris Jennings
Office of Policy Development

THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL-CORNELL MEDICAL CENTER

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS
ROOM N-237

October 29, 1996

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
c/o Ms. Pam Cicetti
Office of the First Lady
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

As I am a devoted supporter of you and President Clinton, it was a pleasure to meet you last night at the River Club in New York, and to hear your comments.

As I mentioned last night, I am very willing to devote time and energy to help you develop more and better programs to benefit children. I am enclosing for your reference my curriculum vitae in which you will note that I have long been an advocate of children; and, as Chairman of Pediatrics at The New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, I have the requisite experience and expertise in research to be of help to you.

Specifically, I am willing to help you and the Administration in the following problems:

- a. **Promotion of children's health through research.** Very few NIH grants are awarded to pediatricians. This results from the training requirements in Pediatrics which emphasize primary care and clinical pediatrics. Yet, the NIH grants are awarded for excellence in research in which pediatricians receive little or no training. Also the study sections that review research grants consist mainly of basic scientists with no clinical experience. Unless a reviewer has worked with pediatric patients and realizes how difficult clinical research can be, it is unlikely that a grant to do clinical research will receive a high score.
- b. **Increasing the opportunities for pediatric clinical research.** I applaud the Federal government's support of the Clinical Research Centers Program at the NIH. Although strides are being made to



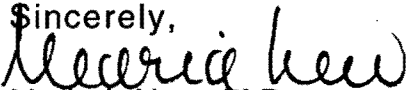
promote clinical research as distinguished from basic research, very little clinical research is being funded in pediatrics. The small number of Childrens Clinical Research Centers is emblematic of this. This stems from the training problem listed in "a." We can change this. Research is the hope for the future--and our children are our future.

- c. **Alter the system for testing drugs intended for children.** The FDA tests drugs in ways that are suitable for adults, then the dose is scaled down for children based on weight or surface area. Drugs are not tested in young animals in preparation for treating children. This is the wrong approach. Children are not small adults--they have a different metabolism. Indeed, a dose may have to be larger for children than for adults if the children metabolize the drug faster. The FDA has recognized this problem--the system for drug evaluation should be changed.

I very much look forward to hearing from you in the near future. I am happy to help you by not only sharing my ideas with you but working on execution of ideas that you consider worthy.

At this writing I am looking forward to President Clinton's re-election.

Sincerely,



Maria I. New, M.D.

Professor and Chairman

Department of Pediatrics

Chief, Pediatric Endocrinology

Harold and Percy Uris Professor of Endocrinology and Metabolism

THE WHITE HOUSE

November 8, 1996

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✓ cc: Chris Jennings
Office of Policy Development

*Chris, HRC would like you to
call her re: her suggestions.
Please report back.*

*Charles
Paw*