



The Association of Canadian Medical Colleges  
L'Association des facultés de médecine du Canada

August 26, 1997

Mr. Chris Brown  
President  
Allergy and Environmental  
Health Association  
Ottawa Branch  
2-142 Osgoode Street  
OTTAWA ON K1N 6S4

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter of the 18th of August, 1997. As you know, our Association has not systematically studied the issue of physician attitudes to individuals apparently suffering adverse reactions to environmentally related substances. Nevertheless my own experience and those related to me by you on behalf of your associates suggests that there is indeed a problem in this area.

As you know our organization, the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges, represents the sixteen faculties of medicine in Canada. Although we have some involvement with the practising profession through the offices of continuing medical education in these faculties, our major responsibilities lie in the areas of undergraduate and postgraduate medical education. I believe, and many other medical educators do as well, that for the long term strategies directed at undergraduate and postgraduate medical students are most likely to have the greatest "payoff".

Accordingly, I will endeavour early in the new academic year to obtain such educational materials as are available from Dr. Roy Fox and his environmental health clinic in Nova Scotia and from Dalhousie University's faculty of medicine. Once I have had an opportunity to review the materials, I will send them to the appropriate offices of medical education in our faculties across the country. I will ask the responsible individuals in these offices for a response to the materials and an indication of what action they might be taking and will be happy to share this with you.

Yours sincerely,

David Hawkins, MD  
Executive Director

DH/jp

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