B/U 8/15

Manville Building Products Plant
July 24, 1961

Kenneth W. Smith, M.D. - CHQ

Medical Records

In your letter of July 19, 1961, you expressed willingness to reveal the contents of our medical records when requested. We would prefer to establish the policy here that the contents of medical records should not be revealed unless required by law for the processing of workmen's compensation claims, etc.

Dr. DuBow advises me that most of these requests for information result from an employee's application for life insurance or some form of health and accident insurance. It is my feeling that the insurance companies should be on their own in making decisions concerning insurability.

There may be some cases where we do not deem it advisable to send information even after the same information is available to the employee, and if we do not follow a consistent practice, a number of embarrassing questions could be raised.

Nor do I think that the Plant Doctor should be expected to express any opinion or give any information as to the health or insurability of employees.

If questions are asked concerning the reasons for electrocardiograms or X-rays being taken, we should have a routine reply that they are done as a part of periodic physical examinations and not for the purpose of treatment.

May I have your comments on this policy.

C. H. Grote

CC: W. F. Fischer
D. T. DuBow, M.D.

Dr. David T. DuBow, Dr. Kenneth W. Smith and C. H. Grote on Releasing Medical Records to Insurance Companie...
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