

17-MAM-ESF  
State Inst - Facility

MONGOLOIDS

May 17, 1947

Miss Helen F. Cupper  
3318 Washburn Avenue N.  
Minneapolis 12, Minnesota

Dear Miss Cupper:

We received your letter regarding information concerning Mongoloids and Microcephalic patients. We regret that we did not give you this information sooner, but we have been short of help and our file had to be brought up to date. The answers to your questions are as follows:

Total population - 2540.

(Beginning next week fifty helpless male patients are being accepted for one of our new buildings)

Approximate number of institutionalized Mongoloids - 90 males and 54 females.

Approximate number of Microcephalics - 3 males and 7 females.

Approximate number of Mongoloids admitted last year - 10 males and 1 female.

Approximate number of Microcephalics admitted last year - 1 male.

The tendency is to admit persons of severe mental and physical defects at an earlier age than formerly. Since most physicians now detect mongolism at birth, or shortly after, many of these children are committed and placed on our waiting list. Due to the lack of space it is not always possible for us to accept them immediately. The same situation would apply to Microcephalic cases, except that they are much fewer in number.

None of these children are visited often by their parents as the parents tend to be more interested in these patients than the parents of many of our other patients. There are perhaps two or three exceptions where the family physician has advised the mother not to become attached to the baby, but to have the child admitted here and then cease giving the child attention.

Very truly yours,

E. J. Engberg, M.D.  
Superintendent

CP: E

3318 Washburn Avenue North  
Minneapolis 12, Minnesota  
April 27, 1947

Dr. E. J. Ensberg, Director  
Minnesota School for the Feeble-minded  
Faribault, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Ensberg:

As a part of the requirements for a Master of Art's degree in Social Work, I am doing an exploratory study of the opinions of pediatricians, psychiatrists, and psychologists about the immediate institutionalization of children diagnosed at birth as microcephalic or mongoloid. This will be broadened by a discussion of emotional problems in homes and other factors in such situations. I would especially appreciate your help with the discussion of frequency of institutionalization.

I fully recognize that some of the information being requested may not be available. I will be grateful for any you might have relative to the institution at Faribault on

Total present institutional population 2500  
Total (or approximate) number of institutionalized Mongoloids  
" " " " " " " Microcephalics  
Number (or approximation) of Mongoloids institutionalized last year 11  
" " " of Microcephalics " " "  
Are there any general trends in ages of institutionalization of either group?  
Do you have any impressions as to whether these groups are visited more or less than others?

If figures are not easily available your impressions or any suggestions you can offer about them or the study itself will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

*Helen Cupper*

(Miss) Helen T. Cupper

JM/HC