

TO : Administrators ✓
Medical Directors
Directors of Nursing

FROM : David J. Vail, M.D.
Medical Director

SUBJECT: Ward Temperatures

V

DATE: October 3, 1966

An increasing awareness of the effect of varying temperatures on living conditions of both patients and employees has come from the work of the Humane Practices Committee and my own visits to institutions. Extreme heat and extreme cold have been experienced in various living units. A further problem is the varying conditions in early fall and spring.

To determine the extent of these variations, we are embarking on a year-long study. I request that the following measurements be made in the following manner. On the non-holiday weekday closest to the 15th of each month beginning in November of 1966 and ending in October of 1967 from the hours of 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. I would like the following measurements made:

1. The temperature in the shade outside the building.
2. The temperature in the unit office.
3. The temperature in a dormitory (or sleeping room if there are no dormitories).
4. The temperature in a dayroom.

Please submit this information to R. Joseph Lucero, Mental Health Research Consultant, Division of Medical Services. I am sure that this study will be of value, not only statewide but to each individual institution.

Thank you.

DJV:lz

cc: Humane Practices Committee - *Mr. Gates*
Medical Services Division Staff - *Dr. Smith*

Mr. Blomquist

Department of Public Welfare, Medical Division

January 9, 1967

TO: Administrators ✓
Medical Directors
Directors of Nursing
FROM: David J. Vail, M.D.
Medical Director

SUBJECT: Ward Temperatures

At the last meeting of the Humane Practices Committee some members indicated that there appeared to be some confusion with regard to my memo of October 3, 1966 relating to the Ward Temperature Study. The purpose of this memo is to clarify the information we are asking of you.

An increasing awareness of the effect of varying temperatures on living conditions of both patients and employees has come from the work of the Human Practices Committee and my own visits to institutions. Extreme heat and extreme cold have been experienced in various living units. A further problem is the varying conditions in early fall and spring.

To determine the extent of these variations, we are embarking on a year-long study. I request that the following measurements be made in the following manner. On the non-holiday weekday closest to the 15th of each month beginning in November of 1966 and ending in October of 1967 from the hours of 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., I would like the following measurements made:

1. The temperature in the shade outside of each building.
2. The temperature in the unit office of each building or ward.
3. The temperature in a dormitory (or sleeping room if there are no dormitories) of every building or ward.
4. The temperature in a dayroom of every building or ward.

In order for these reports to be meaningful they must include all buildings on the hospital grounds which house patients.

Please submit this information on a monthly basis to R. Joseph Lucero, Research Coordinator, Division of Medical Services. I am sure that this study will be of value not only statewide but to each individual institution.