



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
EASTERN REGIONAL CENTER

March 5, 1991

Mr. Arnold P. Wendroff, Ph.D.  
298 Marlborough Road  
Brooklyn, N.Y., 11226

Dear Dr. Wendroff,

This letter is in response to your letter of February 28, 1991.

As we discussed in the middle of February, we are actively investigating the complaint you filed with the Commission concerning the sale of mercury by botanicas.

All information collected by our office as part of this or any other continuing investigation is forwarded to our Scientific Offices in Washington, D.C. As our investigation continues we will provide any additional information to that office. A decision concerning any action to be taken will also be made by that office.

Information about ongoing investigations cannot be released; however, I would like to assure you that your complaint is being acted upon and that the information you provided to my Secretary the last two times you spoke to her was made part of this specific investigation.

We appreciate your interest and thank you for providing this information to us.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Schwartz  
Program Analysis Officer

Connecticut  
Delaware  
District of Columbia  
Florida  
Maine  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey  
New York  
North Carolina  
Pennsylvania  
Puerto Rico  
Rhode Island  
South Carolina  
Vermont  
Virginia  
Virgin Islands  
West Virginia

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

2151 BERKELEY WAY  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94704  
(415) 540-2658

March 20, 1991

Arnold P. Wendroff, Ph.D.  
298 Marlborough Road  
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Dear Dr. Wendroff:

Thank you very much for your letter and information about the mercury hazards of certain folk practices, treatments and remedies.

I have forwarded a copy of your letter and article to Dr. Paul Papanek at the Los Angeles County Health Department and to Stu Richardson head of the California Food and Drug Branch.

Dr. John Harris, my colleague and head of the California Birth Defects Monitoring Program, and also a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Northern California Chapter Committee on Environmental Hazards, has been doing an investigation of mercury hazards related to folk practices and I've asked him if he would be willing to work with you and me on a short report for AAP news.

I am sorry that I am slow in getting back to you and I will try to get this into AAP news.

In addition, I will also mention this at the National Meeting of Pediatricians to be held in San Diego on March 20, 1991.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Jackson".

Richard J. Jackson, M.D., M.P.H.  
Chief  
Hazard Identification and Risk  
Assessment Branchcc: John Harris/BDMP  
Lynn Goldman/EETS  
Paul Papanek/L.A. Dept. Health  
Ray Koterak/AAP  
Stu Richardson/FDB



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RICHARD M. DALEY  
MAYOR

March 28, 1991

Arnold P. Wendroff, Ph.D.  
298 Marlborough Road  
Brooklyn, New York 11226

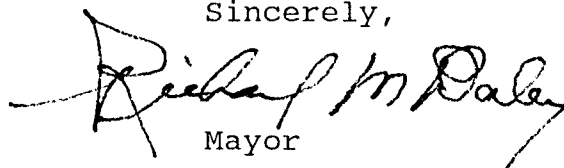
Dear Dr. Wendroff:

Thank you for sending me the materials on mercury vapor exposure in the Hispanic community. Since the City of Chicago has a large Hispanic population, I appreciate your drawing my attention to this matter.

I have forwarded your letter and support documents to our Department of Health. The department will look into the important issues you raise. At a minimum, our health educators, and especially our environmental lead personnel who already focus on specific health risks in the Hispanic communities, can include increased awareness regarding mercury in their materials.

Thank you for writing to alert me to the practices and risks regarding mercury vapor exposure. I have instructed our health care workers to follow-through by working to eliminate possible risks from mercury vapor exposure.

Sincerely,



Mayor