

W. J. ...
M. ...
November 30, 1953

Mr. Dwight Macdonald, Staff Writer
The New Yorker
25 West 43rd Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Macdonald:

You name five doctors in your letter who have raised the question of a possible connection between lung cancer and cigarette smoking. This is a very small group, as I am sure you will agree.

A handful of doctors are claiming that there is a relationship between lung cancer and cigarette smoking, but there are numerous reputable medical men of high standing who hold that there has not been a single shred of real or substantial evidence that there is any relationship whatever. (Years ago it was claimed that cigarette smoking caused tuberculosis, but that theory has long since been exploded.)

So far as research is concerned, we have an outstanding research laboratory, competently staffed by men of great ability in their particular fields, and we have, and are, sponsoring independent research of various sorts.

Very truly yours,

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