

December 18, 1972

Dr. James J. Leonard
University of Pittsburgh
961 Scaife Hall
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Jim:

I have known Larry Perlman of the University of Wisconsin for a number of years, both as a young PHS officer in the rheumatic heart disease program here in Minnesota and in his subsequent work at Michigan and Milwaukee. We have actively collaborated on several projects.

I have no thorough knowledge of Dr. Perlman's basic activities in research or teaching. However, I know him to be bright, industrious, ambitious and effective in all his dealings and have no doubt of his organizational ability.

I do know that he took a very important role in some quite fundamental contributions at Tecumseh, as seen in his list of references. Few physicians have been similarly involved or as responsible for such important analyses of population data and cardiovascular epidemiology. I feel that these contributions would fully justify at this institution a substantial academic appointment in both departments of medicine and the School of Public Health.

Dr. Frederick Epstein of the University of Michigan would best know of Larry's capabilities for independent research, if this is of interest and importance to his future efforts. I can say without qualification that we would be most pleased to have Larry Perlman on the staff of our institution.

Cordially,

Henry Blackburn, M.D.
Professor and Director, and
Professor of Medicine

HB/rs