

3 December 1971

CI-26-8546

Mrs. L. D. Sykes
3319 Stanford Drive
San Angelo, Texas, 76901

Dear Mrs. Sykes:

Thank you for your letter of November 23rd. As was indicated in the article which you enclosed, reduced gravity simulation devices do have a place in rehabilitation programs and this place will have to be developed. At present, the use of such equipment is new and it is not yet generally available. Some devices have been tried successfully on a few selected cases, but so far as I know, it has not been used in cases such as your son's. His own doctors would be the best judges as to whether such equipment would be of benefit in his particular case.

Those devices which have been built have been special developments and the cost was rather high. There is considerable effort by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to encourage the use of space-related developments by the general public and in health care, but so far, this one has not progressed extensively.

I would suggest that you contact your son's physicians at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Long Beach. I would be happy to discuss the problem with them should they so desire, and this would be easy for us to do.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. G. Gaume, M.D.
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