

September 29, 1944.

Dr. Esther Barney,
Manchester, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Barney:

I am giving you a bandage that I think will work on your patient, Peggy Lincoln Beckwith. I am enclosing a diagram of a piece of sheeps wool tanned. You can cut one from an old storm coat if it is impossible to buy this tanned sheepskin with the wool on it. We call it a shearling pad.

The length of this pad is about half an inch longer than the sketch on the paper. However, the length of any of these pads are to be determined by the size of the knee. This pad is the right length for a knee of my size.

The small area goes around the back in the popliteal space and the flanges go around the knee to meet at the front. It should be short enough so that it takes some stretching on the part of this shearling pad to make the ends meet at the front. Adhesive tape is caught around at the back and pulled as tightly as possible around to the front. Toward the front edge there is naturally a V shape of the adhesive as it branches out from the back to encompass the cartilaginous areas of the knee. All the taping starts at the back and is long enough to overlap in front tightly enough that it would appear to you that it would cut off the circulation of the leg, but you will not do that due to the wool padding that prevents it. So tape it just as tightly as you possibly can and you will get excellent results and fine locomotion.

We use this on our football and basketball players who are beyond going, and it really is the answer. The best thing that you can do is to cut one for your husband's knee and practice on him, then have him cut one for your knee and practice on you so that you will get the feel of it. It is a wonderful bandage and I think the answer to most knee difficulties such as you describe. If this is not clear to you, please write me for further instructions.

With all good wishes to you and Dr. Mason Barney, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.