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Ray A. Brinker, M.D.

Professor and Chairman

18 December 1990

To: Chairman of Radiology in 2014

As I reflect on my time in the field of imaging (starting in 1958 as a resident) it was impossible to even guess at the radical changes that have taken place. To try to do the same for the next 25 years would be equally foolhardy but ... here goes:

[1] Room temperature superconductivity will be commonplace greatly expanding the ability to use our brains. Electrical power will be proportionately much cheaper. No human-like computer will exist (i.e. like HAL in the movie 2010). Our computers will use parallel processing with many central microprocessors.

[2] Imaging will still exist as a speciality. We will be imaging the body by chemistry and not by some artificial quality (like ability to stop X-Rays or have a proton resonate). We will be able to give the chemical derangement within the cell of say pancreatitis. This will then allow specific treatment.

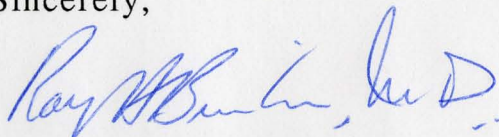
[3] We will still be doing invasive things but more often of a curative nature. No way to treat abscesses other than drainage will be discovered. Cancer is curable via immunological techniques. Arteriosclerosis will still be a scourge but less so as the curve of life span get flat with a precipitous rounding about age 85 years.

[4] Imaging residencies will still be about 4 years and it will still take 14 years from high school to do speciality work.

[5] Physicians will still make good salaries and will not be paid directly by the government. The highest earners will make less with the lowest somewhat more. Radiologists will be in the upper echelons of physician salaries.

[6] There will be no major war. The United Nations will be re-organized with no veto power and will be much stronger. Russia will be only the present day republic. The other 13 republics will be independent. Communism will no longer exist as a concept. Racism, in spite of all our efforts, will still be an unpleasant reality. More Americans will have more civil rights and more material wealth than today. The quality of life will be better. Ecological movements will be a major portion of this positive improvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ray A. Brinker, M.D." The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" being particularly prominent.

Ray A. Brinker, M.D.

P.S. I was born in 1932 so may well be alive to read this in 2014. I hope I will be on the MCO campus then.