ABSTRACT. In this paper we consider the following general situation. Let A be a topological space (set of "parameters"), X a normed linear space, $x \in X$, and for each $a \in A$, let V_a be a nonempty subset of X. The *parameter mapping* is the (generally set-valued) mapping $a \mapsto P_{V_a}(x)$ on A.

In Section 2, we include some results of a general nature concerning semicontinuity properties of the parameter mapping in the case that each V_a is a finite-dimensional flat. The main result here is Theorem 2.5 which gives a sufficient condition under which the parameter mapping is upper semicontinuous. On the other hand, we give an example which shows that even in a two-dimensional polyhedral space, where the range $\{V_a | a \in A\}$ consists of all one-dimensional subspaces, the parameter mapping is neither lower semicontinuous nor admits a continuous selection (Example 2.7). This is in striking contrast to the behavior of the metric projection itself, which in this situation is always lower semicontinuous and admits a continuous (even linear!) selection. In this connection, we should mention that the metric projection can be regarded, in a certain sense, as a special parameter mapping because of the formula $P_V(x) = x + P_{V-\{x\}}(0)$ for each $x \in X$. From this it follows that any semicontinuity properties of the parameter mapping $x \mapsto P_{V-\{x\}}(0)$ are valid for the metric projection $x \mapsto P_V(x)$, and vice versa.