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Dr. Robert GALLO  
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U. S. A.

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Dear Bob,

I tried to get you on the phone, without success.

We -Françoise BARRE, Jean-Claude CHERMANN and I- have detected some reverse transcriptase activity in cultures of T-lymphocytes from a french patient with an immunoproliferative syndrome.

We would like to know whether this isolate has something to do with your HTLV. Therefore, I am writing to ask you if you could possibly make available to us a HTLV cloned DNA fragment (in DNA or bacterial form) and an anti-serum against viral proteins. If you agree, it would be very convenient for us if you could eventually give these reagents to Dr. LEIBOWITZ who will shortly visit you.

I should like to stress that my inquiry is made only for basic research purpose. We would not release your material outside our laboratory without your permission.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*Luc*

L. MONTAGNIER, M.D.

P.S. : Did you receive my letter inviting you for giving a lecture on HTLV at the Pasteur Institute in March ?