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Dr. Peter Piot  
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Dear Peter,

I read with interest and wonder your interview in *Global AIDS News* regarding how Montagnier gave you such accurate blood test results in February 1984. It is nice to see how everything is so simple. Montagnier alone discovers the virus, and in the new version is now the one who shows it is the AIDS virus. Even Montagnier did not make such a claim when we wrote the history together in 1987 for *Nature*, and in his 1988 *OMNI* magazine interview, specifically stated what Gallo and his colleagues did was more difficult, i.e., showing that the new virus was the cause of AIDS, i.e., the AIDS virus! And until now (and your interview and with the exception of the Pasteur lawyers and financial people), no one doubts my group developed an accurate, sensitive blood test - first & foremost. It is amazing he got such accurate results with your samples when he published 18% of AIDS sera positive in 1983 and in July 1984 published 37.5%, whereas we published (with coded sera) 89% and (*Science*, May 1984) and 100% (Safai, et al., *Lancet*, June 1984).

Bernard Seytre's book (just out in France) shows that in mid 1985, Pasteur tests were still missing 15% of AIDS cases! Moreover, you know very well a Western blot was essential in confirming ELISA's, and no one in France had developed this assay. It was brought to any aspect of clinical medicine by us for the first time (Sarngadharan, et al., *Science*, May 1984 and Schupbach, et al., *Science*, May 1984). --You also know the story of their blood test scandal, a subject which seems untouchable to propaganda publications.

It may be more simple and politically palatable and flow with the propaganda for a political organization and newsletter to promote this nonsense, but I hope in the future you will call things with more precision and firmness.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Gallo, M.D.  
Chief

Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology

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