



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

Memorandum


Date November 26, 1985

From Visiting Associate, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology, DTP, DCT, NCI

Subject Review of Memo of August 19, 1985, to Dr. Howard Streicher

To Chief, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology, DTP, DCT, NCI

In my memo of August 19, 1985, to Dr. Howard Streicher (LTGB, NCI), I did provide the protocols concerning detection, isolation, and propagation of the AIDS virus (HTLV-III/LAV). Concerning the LAV sample from Dr. Luc Montagnier (Pasteur Institute, Paris, France) due to this short notice, I am in a position to give the following information: Dr. Luc Montagnier provided us twice with supernatant from cultures infected with LAV. First, in the early summer of 1983, he brought it over himself. Using this sample, we did not succeed in transmitting the virus into cells. We conducted these experiments twice with consistently negative results. I informed Dr. Montagnier about these by phone (see enclosed protocols, pages 1-2). We then received the second sample of supernatants from LAV infected cultures on September 23, 1983. In this case, we did succeed to transmit the virus in cord blood T-cells assayed on October 6th and 18th, 1983 (see pages 3-5). Once again, I informed Dr. Montagnier in my telephone conversation that the transmission of LAV in these experiments was successful. We successfully transmitted LAV into permanent cell lines in December 1983. The positive immunofluorescence was scored on December 14, 1983, in T17.4 (T4⁺ cell line developed at M.D. Anderson Hospital). This cell line was used for comparative studies with H9/HTLV-IIIg (protocols will be provided at a later date from Drs. George Shaw and Dr. Beatrice Hahn). Attempts to transmit LAV (supernatant from T-cell cultures) to H9 cells and other clones of HT cell line on February 13, 1984, gave negative results (see page 7).


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MP/es

Encl. protocol p1-7.