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**Memorandum**

Date · March 13, 1984

From Chief, Molecular Virology Laboratory

Subject French isolate - LAV

To Dr. Fred Murphy, Director VRL, CID

The French isolate LAV has been successfully transmitted to cord blood and adult lymphocytes. The virus produced is high titered and equally infectious as the original inoculum received from Chermann. Using the same optimum conditions we determined for production of LAV isolate, we are monitoring for the production of similar virus from lymphocyte cultures of four AIDS patients.

Crude virus preparation of the LAV isolate has solubilized and used as antigens for the ELISA test. A panel of control and AIDS patients sera were screened in an ELISA test. Of those sera previously tested by Chermann, we obtained a greater than 95% concordance of positivity when compared to the French results. Work is ongoing for the development of a radioimmunoassay for the detection of antibodies to LAV p25.

C. D. Cabradilla, Ph.D.