



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute

Memorandum

COR-4

Date January 17, 1992

From Expert, Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology, BCP, DCE, NCI

Subject H17 Cells Analyzed by PCR

To Associate Director, Office of Scientific Integrity, NIH

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In order to avoid any confusion, I wanted to repeat in writing the information I gave to you and Dr. Hallum regarding the vial labelled H/17 provided to Dr. Hadley in July of 1990.

The vial was identified as possibly containing HTLV-IIIB from February 1984 because the labeling was similar to that used for other infected cells (eg. H/RF). However, at the time the sample was given to Dr. Hadley, I noted that the label did not say which virus it might be, nor did it indicate that the cells were infected at all.

The material was provided in response to the request that we give samples that might possibly be sources of early virus isolates. The critical question being asked was not whether the cells were infected but, if infected, with which virus or viruses.

My assumption was that we would find out in the analysis whether the cells were indeed the target infected cells or the uninfected clone and therefore not useful for this purpose. It was on this basis that I provided the clone as though it were infected. I note again this was entirely a surmise on my part.

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Howard Z. Streicher
Howard Z. Streicher, M.D.

cc: Dr. Robert Gallo
Dr. Jules Hallum

3-26-92

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