



## Memorandum

Date August 23, 1985

From Associate Director, NCI

Subject Required Background Data

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

Thank you for the raw and composite data which you have sent so far. These were very useful in enabling us to reach the consensus opinions expressed in preparing the draft document for OASH.

However, there are three major areas of oversight which have to be completed:

1. The derivation of the H9 cell line traced to its parental origins, i.e., the patient.
2. The exact sequences and timing of the events which led to the virus-producing line HTLV III<sub>B</sub> that is now in current use. This is considered to be is very critical. We understand that pools of several patients' samples were used and on more than one occasion. What is needed is: what samples were used and at what times, how much of each, the patients' initials and the clinical source of each, when the first positive tests occurred, and the sequence of that documentation. We need an oral description as well as copied pages from relevant notebooks. We would like a written statement from Dr. Popovic, and whoever else partook in the development of the HTLV III<sub>B</sub> line, that LAV was never used in any connection in that complex infection sequence which led to the isolation of the HTLV III<sub>B</sub> line.
3. It is important to define the first time when ELISA's or Western blots were attempted with any HTLV III-type isolate and human patient sera.

We need this as soon as is reasonably possible.

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