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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

865323 Memorandum

Date October 25, 1984

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

Subject Record of Telephone Conversation with Dr. Luc Montagnier on August 23, 1984

To Director, National Cancer Institute
Associate Director, National Cancer Institute

Montagnier was informed that we routinely find genomic diversity in our isolates of HTLV-III. He stated that he has cloned his virus and finds no variation among isolates. Of the cell line we received from Montagnier, one of one-hundred cells is producing the virus. The cell that is producing the virus has not been fully characterized yet, however the virus looks like the H9/HTLV-IIIg virus. We went back to the original LAV that they had sent to us and when analyzed it was found to be different from the virus growing in the culture they recently sent. All isolates we have found are microheterogenous. We presume, therefore, that the cell line we received from them probably contains our virus. They had our producer cell line for months before we received theirs.

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Robert C. Gallo, M.D.

*cc
Exec. Committee*

Send to [redacted]

*Interesting point:
Doubtful that
the variation in the HTLV
lines that the line from Montagnier
could be coincidentally the same.*

Yancey