



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Building 37, Room 6A09
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May 20, 1985

Dr. Jean Claude Chermann
Dr. Francoise Barre-Sinoussi
Institut Pasteur
28 Rue du Docteur-Roux
75724 Paris Cedex 15
FRANCE

Dear Jean Claude and Francoise,

I received your letter and noted your concern about Flossie's letter to Nature and Daniel Zagury told me you expressed a similar concern to him.

First, Flossie's letter was meant with "tongue in cheek", i.e., as a joke. Second, I did not even know she wrote it. She was saying it in the lab. as a joke. Third, to emphasize to you how silly it is, such a name would not be acceptable to me. Fourth, I am a little astonished that after:

- (1) your letter on nomenclature to Nature;
- (2) your talk in Atlanta pushing LAV;
- (3) the New Scientist viscous, distorted, anti-scientific piece filled with Wain-Hobson's name;
- (4) the French Catholic Review piece and
- (5) the several other pieces of junk with innuendoes made against me over the last few months streaming out of the Pasteur Institute and published in the French "throw aways" you could ever express any concerns to me about a little letter from Flossie.

I agree to LAV/HTLV-III by you. I will call it HTLV-III/LAV generically and then HTLV-III (RF, or B2..... etc. for individual isolate) in specific points. I will put the HTLV-III first. You put LAV first.

Finally, I still hope to see tangible evidence that all of you, and especially Luc and Simon, correct some of the damage done these past 6 months.

Dr. Chermann and Dr. Barre-Sinoussi

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I felt like things could be alright again when I was in Atlanta. However, I then heard about your lecture and I received 2 more wonderful pieces of "French journalism" a la Montagnier and co-workers. I also double checked on Alizon's story that "he did nothing at Columbia", and everything I have learned is that he did attempt to make innuendoes. Give me a few examples of something significant to correct the relationship.

Sincerely yours,



Robert C. Gallo, M.D.

RCG:1b

cc: ✓ Dr. Luc Montagnier
✓ Dr. Simon Wain-Hobson