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October 11, 1983

Dr. Clumeck
and
Dr. Henri Paelman
155 Nationale Straat
Institute for Tropical Medicine
2000 Antwerp
Belgium

Dear Dr. Clumeck and Dr. Paelman:

I have heard that you are seeing cases of AIDS in Black Africans and also Europeans who have lived in Zaire. My laboratory is exploring the relationship of the human T-cell leukemia virus (HTLV) to AIDS. I am also interested in the search for the origin of HTLV which may take us to Africa. I would like to propose a collaboration between our laboratories in an effort to better understand these questions. We would be interested in testing serum samples from your patients for antibody to HTLV. We would require approximately 1 ml of serum to be able to screen by different methods, (i.e., ELISA, RIA, fluorescence). I hope we can develop a productive collaboration.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Gallo, M.D.
Chief, Laboratory of
Tumor Cell Biology

AHS:tas

(Signed in Dr. Gallo's absence)