



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland 20205

Building 37, Room 61
(301) 496-6007

July 3, 1984

Dr. Luc Montagnier
Institut Pasteur
28 Rue Du D'Roux
75724 Paris Cedex 15
France

Dear Luc,

I am writing to again request the human BJ cell line you recently were able to infect with LAV and now have producing "LAV" permanently. This you, of course, recently published in Science.

As you know, we have sent you:

1. T-cell growth factor (IL-2),
2. HTLV-I producing cell lines,
3. HTLV-I specific antibodies,
4. HTLV-I molecular clone,
5. HTLV-II, producing cell line,
6. HTLV-II molecular clone,
7. HTLV-III producing cell lines, and
8. Human and rabbit antibodies to HTLV-III.

We acknowledge receiving some extracellular virus from you, but this is, of course, not permanent, and small in amount. We also received some LAV nucleic acid sequences from you but these turned out to be normal cellular DNA sequences.

We have sent Sarngadharan to you to compare the proteins of LAV and HTLV-III using our hyperimmune sera to HTLV-III. As you know, there is substantial cross-reactions as anticipated.

As we both agreed by telephone on a few occasions it would now be nice and perhaps essential to compare the molecularly cloned genes of HTLV-III and LAV. We have several isolates of HTLV-III which are cloned, and as you know we are waiting for you to make a decision as to when you will send someone from your lab. to us with your clones of LAV for comparison (clone to clone) as the final experiments before we publish something together. As I mentioned, we would be able to offer financial support for a member of your laboratory to come here for these final experiments. You told me by telephone this would be soon but you could not afford the time of someone now. As you know I am surprised by this because either you or someone in the group have been lecturing around the U.S. with great regularity since the publications of the papers from my laboratory in Science. Several of your collaborators are pressing me for an answer on the comparisons. I want them, you, everyone at the Pasteur Institute, and anyone else who is interested to know we are ready and waiting for the final experiments.

Finally, I repeat again: we do wish you to send your BJ cell line producing LAV as you published in Science. I also acknowledge your kind offer to give it to "Sarang" some weeks ago. Please telex or call when it is coming.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,



Robert C. Gallo, M.D.

RCG:tas

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Ltr., Dr. Montagnier - 7/3/84

Page 3

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