

1741 Redgate Farms Court  
Rockville, MD 20850

July 14, 1992

The Editor  
The Washington Post  
1150 15th Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20071

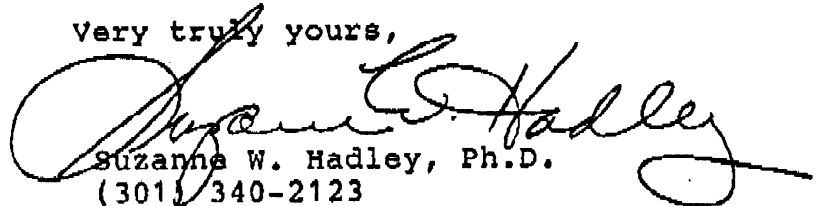
Sir:

The July 10 story by reporter Malcolm Gladwell, "French Reopen AIDS Patent Dispute...." concerning the HIV blood test patent of Dr. Robert Gallo contains a number of substantial errors of fact. Among the most significant of these errors is Mr. Gladwell's assertion that a recent NIH report "said Gallo had many different strains of the (AIDS) virus in his laboratory at the time he developed the blood test, others of which could have been used in the invention." This assertion is absolutely untrue. The referenced report contains no such statement nor even any relevant implication.

Mr. Gladwell may have meant to refer to public and private claims by certain NIH officials to the effect that Dr. Gallo had other AIDS virus isolates and therefore had no motive to misappropriate the French virus. These claims cannot be substantiated.

I challenge reporter Gladwell and The Washington Post to produce evidence from the NIH report that supports the statements in Mr. Gladwell's story, and that failing, to issue a correction or retraction.

Very truly yours,



Suzanna W. Hadley, Ph.D.  
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cc: Ms. Joann Byrd