

WITNESS STATEMENT FROM DR R J PERRY

Issue in respect of which a statement is sought

Topic B4 – LAV Test Kits

Attached please find a letter from Dr R J Perry to Dr L Montagnier dated 08 February 1985.

I refer you to paragraph 4 of the attached letter which states:

Finally, the SNBTS is preparing to evaluate LAV/HTLV III test kits with a view to routine introduction of such a screening test in the future. It may be to our mutual advantage if we could extend the collaboration with your Centre to include an evaluation of the kit you have developed. It is hoped that our evaluation will take the form of a parallel comparison of a number of kits against a panel of donor samples. Dr Cuthbertson suggested that you would be interested in such a collaboration and it would be helpful if you could confirm that this is the case.

We have been unable to locate a response to the letter.

We would be grateful if you could ask Dr Perry what happened to the proposal to obtain LAV test kits from the Institute Pasteur.

Reply

We have searched the SNBTS files for a response to this letter but have been unable to locate any reply from Dr Montagnier or any of his colleagues at the Institute Pasteur.

My recollection is that my suggestion to Dr Montagnier that SNBTS would be interested to evaluate the Pasteur test was tentative and secondary to our (PFC) primary interest in HIV virus inactivation studies.

Neither I nor my colleagues can recall receiving any response to this proposal which I believe was not pursued any further by SNBTS.

Robert J Perry
28 September 2011

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