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To: Sandra Thurnan

Fax: (202) 456-2439D

From: Dr. T.R. Benkendorfer

Date: 3/15/00

Re: VIRON 50

Pages: 5 Including cover

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Following is information on VIRON50 as discussed with you in Nairobi, Kenya.

Some information sent by Email.

Kind regards

Dr. T.R. Benkendorfer



Institute of Virological Research

KENYA BRANCH

VIRON50

VIRON50 is a new kid on the block, which had been modified from a former cancer drug, which was used in the USA... as far back as the 30's and 40's. Its original founder was the original and former founder of Dow Chemicals, who incidentally, was a biochemist. Dr. Dow teamed up with a German Oncologist by the name of Dr. H. Koch. Between the two of them, and by trial and error and many numerous clinical trials for cancer alone, Enteliv was born. As I understand it, both Dr's Koch and Dow then challenged the FDA in Court and won. Then Dr. Dow decided to return back to his family business and Koch went to Brazil to continue his research and to continue with his new discovery and patented invention.

The lawyer representing both in the FDA suit was also a biochemist, who, after waiting until the patent time expired, took the formula and began making it in his kitchen. His associate then took it away from the lawyer and modified it somewhat, enough to make certain claims that "he had a cure for cancer", and gave many people false hopes. He did do one good thing though; he gave the formula to me in 1988. I was already in Kenya with another American company called International Diagnostics Laboratories, of which we were trying to make an HIV-1 and 2 detection hemogluttination assay without the use of refrigeration for use in the Bush in Africa.

I then brought the formula here and then began making a "cocktail", by adding three different complete isolated chemicals and elements to the original formula. By changing and decreasing some of those existing chemicals, it was then again by trial and error in the field, which developed into VIRON50. It worked.

Off I went to Mwanza, Tanzania to conduct a pre-trial of 90 patients at Bugando Hospital (Catholic) and the only one there with any type of equipment for a Lab. After 3 months and eye counting the CD4 cells in a microscope, as we could only assay or count maximum of 3 patients per day, as we only had one microscope, the changes in the CD4's were remarkable, as they were increasing and the virus seemed to be decreasing in clinical symptoms. As at that time we had no way of measuring the total amount of the virus in the blood.

Back to Kenya, and requests to clinical trials at KEMRI, were refused due to lack of information and patient datas. Back to Texas to the drawing board and joining

Dr. Arthur D. Ericsson, then Assoc. Professor Clinical of Neurology at Amarillo Cell (also at Texas A & M Vet. College). So Arthur and I combined his Interferon with our base of Viron. Our Viron then was still a liquid and he and the Department of Pharmacology at university of Houston, invented a way to micro encapsulate the INF into a tablet, and so stabilize the tablet of Interferon/Then we were using Alferon. We then formed an organization called Institute of Virological Research (Non-Profit) registered in the State of Texas. Oscar Wyatt, Jr. Chairman of Coastal Oil and Gas in Houston and Dr. DeBakey also of Houston, were friends of Dr. Ericsson, so we approached both of them for help and both of them were our first source of funds. Our very first Investors.

Off I went to West Africa, first to Benin, then Togo and finally settled in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. We began after waiting for 1 year to be screened by the West Africans, as rumor had it that I had come to Abidjan to "kill" the West Africans.

Skeptical as they were, they were also desperate to find something to help the people, so they decided to give me 10 of the worst patients. CD4 counts "0", to see if they were going to die or improve. All 10 improved and their CD4 levels jumped to 70 then 200, then 275, etc. and without any side effects. They saw no one had died, just the opposite. They gave me another 10 patients, which led to over 6 years to 2,500 patients, some stayed and some dropped out but none died as a result of AIDS or AIDS related illnesses.

Dr. Kevin DeCock of the CDC was in the CDC Satellite Laboratory. He and I became friends then, as he helped me and introduced me to the Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp Belgium. It was this official Data Reference Centre for the W.H.O., under the directorship of Dr. Luc Kestens, Immunology Department, who was to verify and confirm the CD4 and CD3, CD8 and 45 Counts for us over the next 4-5 years.

Two American Doctors competing with the French Lab. Of Luc Montigne of Louis Pasteur in Paris, who had a strong influence in that former French Colony. Everyone said Go home yank... No one comes to Africa to conduct Clinical Trials... You have to be Nuts... Nuts I was, but stayed anyway... up and down line a yoyo... Robbed many times, shot at, Lab destroyed by vandals, notes and files stolen and burned... started over 5-6 times from scratch... Witch Doctors literally entered the Hospital grounds and took patients out to practice on them... some even committed suicide in their rooms because their parents wanted them to return home, and their parents did not know why they were there... so instead of being murdered in their villages and everyone knowing they had SIDA, they preferred to die in the Hospital... Therapy lasted for an average of 2½ years per

patient. Then follow-ups were required for 3-4 years... some 20 patients even zero-converted from a positive to a negative. Samples were also sent to them Dr. Robert Gallo who verified our findings, and then later tried to take the credit from us with his new announcement and papers. We did do a 1-year collaboration with Institute of Health in Bethesda with our samples and patient data.

In 1994 our source of funding expired... We were desperate to get funding... No one would help us in Abidjan... appeals to America were made... David Ho organizations in NYC and Washington... Nothing for Africa, but we could have come back to USA and started all over... but what about our commitment to the West Africans... our promises to them to save them from the final "death"... no, we could not allow that, so I went to Geneva, where after spending 8 months searching, making radio appeals, talking and being interviewed, I found our Savior, Mr. Hans Albert Kunz, a long time friend of 35 years, who introduced me to an economist and Doctorate in Law plus accounting. A German Nationalist, Dr. Klaus Graf... He decided to help us, and that he did with open arms... I then returned to Abidjan to close the clinic there after a while as most of our work there was finished. We were told, if our drug VIRON50 was registered in another country first, then we could return back to Abidjan. We then moved to Nairobi in 1997. I presented our story to Dr. Davy Koech at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and we decided to conduct another clinical trial, but to be better monitored by specialists in each field. So we engaged 4 monitors... One in Hematology; One in Immunology; One in Virology; One in Pharmacology... all 4 were to monitor the results of all the patients per Lab. The Clinical Trial was to continue for 2 years, with a follow-up program for an additional 5 years. 900 Patients were screened and interviewed to settle for 150 to pass the protocol pre-qualifications... all patients underwent an intensive program... placebo control... in 4 arms studies... as our cocktails were broken down into three major groups... Base material; Base material with Interferon; and Interferon alone.

The end of this month we are filling with the Local Government the Registration documentations... and can now place this in the hands of our pharmaceutical company (FDA) approved Lab. either in Greece or Oklahoma City, or, maybe in Houston Texas...

The Scientific announcement has yet to be made as we have kept a lid on this with the press until we were absolutely sure that it worked and without Toxic side effects. It does and does so remarkably... It gives a second chance on life... We do not claim a Cure... we claim we have a good therapeutic remedy for existing HIV/AIDS patients, who wish to return to a normal life...

You say how long does one have to take this drug... we really don't know for sure, but if we could use the patients in Africa as a guideline, it would be approximately 2 years.

Dosage is 2 tablets taken to dissolve under the tongue 3 times per day. No injections and absolutely no toxic or other types of side effects.

Since we are still in the growing stages ourselves, we don't have a price on this at this time, but we have been trying to keep it under the cost of an AZT treatment, to where everyone could afford to take it... It will be by prescription by Medical Physicians, and this drug was " earmarked " specifically for Africa, India and all under-developed Countries, as we are out to stop this virus "first priority"...

We have been privately funded for the past 11 years since we started. We are making no appeal for funds from your organization. We have paid for all of the tests on all patients; paid for the VIRON50 tablets from various Pharmaceutical Organizations, their transport and meals and their extra Mineral and Vitamin Nutrients, also made in the USA... We paid for all the Doctors, Nurses, Technicians, Hospital Bed space, X-rays and all other supportive medications on all Patients in all Countries... even the KEMRI, and they don't come cheap.... But as an overall, it was all worth every USA Cent.

Now it is time to tell the world... only trouble is where do we tell them? Besides Dr. Ericsson and I who pioneered this project, there have been many who have participated in this program... And there will be many more to come... all without proper credits.

You were very kind to take the time out to have a brief discussion with me at the Grand Regency Hotel on Saturday... as I know you were very tired... It is always good for me to speak with serious and interested people who are also dedicated in this fight against AIDS.

Please keep in touch... I welcome that visit...

Kind regards

Dr. T.R. Benkenclorfer
Director R & D