

Telephone:  
01-730 3468

Lister Institute,  
Chelsea Bridge Road,  
London, SW1W 8RH

2 - 18 1973

Thursday

Dear Dr. Heycock,

We have printed two sets of micrographs but need to bind them in loose leaf binders and label them. I have rewritten the letter and forms and enclose them. If the letter is now OK, please could you have a fair copy made on Elstree paper and sign it? I have yet to complete the list of persons to whom we hope to send the micrographs but this won't take long, so we shall be able to start quite soon.

Best wishes

GRO-C

76,

No 8.15  
Dear.....

For some time Miss Shaw and Mr. Combridge of the Blood Products Unit here have been monitoring samples of pooled human plasma for Australia antigen, ~~using~~ <sup>using</sup> immunoelectrophoresis and other methods. Those samples which appear to be serologically positive are checked by Dr. Lawn at Chelsea using immuno-electron microscopy for morphological confirmation. We feel, however, that the morphological criteria we accept as evidence for the presence of ~~the~~ antigen are somewhat arbitrary and that the test would be more valuable if we could compare these criteria with those accepted in other laboratories which use the electron microscope in this way <sup>of plasma</sup> <sup>at this</sup>

In our case, the problem is accentuated, not only because we are examining pools from 10 or 25 donors, so that the antigen from one donor is diluted 10 or 25 times, but because the plasma is from aged blood and contains more debris than serum or plasma from freshly drawn blood.

It would be most helpful to us if you would examine the enclosed micrographs and classify them on the enclosed form, in the categories we suggest. It will be seen that the micrographs have been deliberately selected to be of varying quality. In addition, we would be grateful if you would give us a brief summary of the criteria you employ for morphological identification of Au antigen, (using the space provided). I enclose a list of those to whom we intend to send the micrographs. If you know of anyone else who might be willing and able to help us in this way, please could you let me know. <sup>take part</sup>

Please return the micrographs to:

Dr A.M. Lawn,  
The Lister Institute,  
Chelsea Bridge Road,  
London SW1W 8RH.

as soon as you can.

Yours sincerely,

W. d'A. Maycock.

# Identification of Australia antigen by immuno-electron microscopy

Name of observer.....

Name of test centre.....

Address of test centre.....

.....

.....

Grading System (assume that the anti-Au test serum contained specific anti-Au antibody, but may have contained antibody of other specificities).

+ Micrograph demonstrates Australia antigen

(+) Micrograph probably demonstrates Australia antigen

Interpretation of micrograph is not possible (either morphology is ambiguous or preparation is unsatisfactory or both)

(-) Micrograph probably does not demonstrate Australia antigen

- Micrograph does not demonstrate Australia antigen

Micrograph		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Grading											
Micrograph	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Grading											
Micrograph	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Grading											
Micrograph	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
Grading											
Micrograph	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	
Grading											

Name of observer.....

Please describe, briefly, your criteria for identifying  
Australia antigen using immuno-electron microscopy

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a. Criteria based on morphology of individual particles

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b. Criteria based on evidence of specific agglutination by  
immune serum