

Dr. Alan J. Johnson,
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6th January, 1971.

Dear Alan,

I am most interested in your work contained in your letter of December 23rd, 1970. I have been hoping all along that you were being pessimistic and that we could get a satisfactory clinical material without the necessity to go on to a further step. We have proved to our complete satisfaction that the only reason for having to go further would be Australia antigen contamination and I was very much hoping to avoid this as the first batches of our material examined for Australia antigen were negative. I felt I must tell you that I learned in this morning's post that some of our recent batches show positive results with diffusion tests, although examination by electron-microscopy proved negative except in one case. Since this combination of results is unusual, further work is being carried out, so that this is highly confidential and still preliminary. It will be of considerable interest to see what happens clinically since in the intervening time a good deal of this material has already been given in good faith to several patients. I will keep you in touch with this work.

I am sending you a copy of a report prepared by Ross in October, although this was not done for the consortium but as part of a summary record we keep for our internal use and of which we also send a copy for information to Dr. Maycock.

Kind regards and best wishes for the New Year from both of us.

Yours sincerely,

Ethel Bidwell.

Copy to Dr. J. K. Smith.