Announcement

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF IMMUNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES LYMPHOKINE STANDARDIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Availability of a Reference Reagent of Human IL-2

At the recent workshop of the IUIS Lymphokine Standardization Subcommittee (November 17–18, 1983, Washington, DC; cochairmen Drs. Dudley Dumonde and Ben Papermaster) it was agreed to develop international reference preparations and, eventually, an international standard of human IL-2. On the basis of a feasibility study conducted in 21 laboratories during 1983, efforts to establish WHO-approved standards of IL-2 have now begun, however, it will require several years and a wider participation for completion. In the interim, a reference reagent of JURKAT IL-2 has been prepared in large quantities and placed in ampuls in 1-ml volumes, to which 1000 units of activity has been assigned. The potency of the IL-2 reference reagent is closely related to that of one of the preparations used in the 1983 feasibility study.

The IL-2 reference reagent now available is intended for calibrating in-house laboratory standards of human IL-2 for those wishing to standardize their assays. Investigators may request, at no cost, two vials of 1000 units each per year. The IL-2 is stored at -70°C and will be shipped to requestors by COD air express. The requestor will be expected to arrange for payment of the shipping charges.

The human IL-2 reference reagent can be requested by writing on organization letterhead to:

Dr. Gary B. Thurman, Program Director of Molecular Immunology, Biological Resources Branch, Biological Response Modifiers Program, NCI-Frederick Cancer Research Facility, Building 426, Rm. 1, Frederick, MD 21701, (301) 695-1098.

The Biological Response Modifiers Program of the Division of Cancer Treatment, National Cancer Institute, is pleased to assist the work of the IUIS Standardization Subcommittee in this way.

For information about the IUIS Lymphokine Standardization Subcommittee, please write or call either of the cochairmen: Dr. D. C. Dumonde, St. Thomas Hospital, London SE1 7EH, United Kingdom, Tel. (01) 928-9292, Ext. 3136; or Dr. B. W. Papermaster, Cancer Research Center, Columbia, Missouri 65205, Tel. (314) 875-2255.

Further announcements about the work of the Lymphokine Standardization Subcommittee will appear shortly.

Erratum

In the article, **HLA Studies in Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Patients with Kaposi's Sarcoma**, by Harry E. Prince, Robert W. Schroff, George Ayoub, Stewart Han, Michael S. Gottlieb, and John L. Fahey, (*Journal of Clinical Immunology*, Volume 4, Number 3, May 1984, pp. 242–245), there is an error in Table II. The frequency of B8 in the Mixed AIDS-KS patient group should be 0, rather than 20.