Dear Dr. Sabin:

Many thanks for the sections of a human case of Japanese B encephalitis. There is indeed a similarity of the cerebral lesions in human Japanese B encephalitis and in the experimental ColSK-infection of the Cynomolgus monkey. In the spinal cord, however, the lesions of the anterior horn cells appear to me much more marked in ColSK-infection than in Japanese B infection. The former shows a high grade destruction of a large number of nerve cells with strong neuronophagia by leukocytes, whereas in the latter, degenerative changes and neuronophagia are found in only a small number of nerve cells. Yet, I am inclined to agree with you, that there is a close correspondence between the lesions in both of the infections, and that the differences I observed in your sections are rather gradually than essentially in character.

My paper about the ColSK-infection in monkeys is going to be published before not too long, and I wonder whether or not you might have objections to mention in my manuscript or in a foot-note, that you drew my attention to this similarity and sent me some sections of a human case of Japanese B encephalitis for comparison.

The hemagglutination with Japanese B encephalitis virus shows some irregularities. After my visit to the U.S.A. in 1947, you have sent me a strain of this virus, which agglutinates sheep erythrocytes under the optimal conditions of keeping 4 hours at room temperature and in the refrigerator overnight. Thus far, it did not agglutinate red cells from chicks bled at 1 or 2 days of age. The Okinawa-strain you sent me recently, agglutinates sheep cells much better when placed in the refrigerator immediately, but the strain does not agglutinate chick cells following this technique. It agglutinates chick cells only after 4 hours at room temperature and in the refrigerator overnight.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

(INSTITUUT VOOR PRAEVENTIEVE GENEESKUNDE)

LEIDEN, November 2, 1949

WASAENASCHER: 56

J.D. Verlinde

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