

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
ELLAND AVE. AND BETHESDA
CINCINNATI 29, OHIO

Misc

September 20, 1950

Dr. R. E. Shope
Medical Research Laboratories
Merck, Inc.
Rahway, New Jersey

Dear Dick:

Enclosed you find ² ~~an~~ ampules of hyperimmune St. Louis rabbit serum. I was wrong in what I told you over the telephone regarding the limited specificity of the antiserum that I had. This particular antiserum crosses very considerably with Jap B and West Nile viruses. The most recent test, carried out only a few weeks ago, showed that it had a neutralization index of 160,000 for SLE, 25,000 for Jap B, and about 10,000 for West Nile. I think that if your virus were not neutralized by this particular antiserum, it would certainly serve to eliminate St. Louis encephalitis virus and probably also the others that I mentioned.

As I told you over the telephone, the present status of the virus of keratoconjunctivitis is somewhat confused, but the work in progress now has shown that the agent at present sent out by Dr. Braley (who was associated with Sanders) seems to be neutralized to some extent by St. Louis antiserum. Dr. Ruchman is now working on this virus and should have some additional information in the not too distant future.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Albert B. Sabin, M.D.

ABS:mjc

enc.