



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

BETHESDA 14, MD.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
O Liver 6-4000

June 1, 1959

Refer to: NBI-COLR

Dr. Albert Sabin
Department of Virology
Research Institute
Children's Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Dr. Sabin:

I have today dispatched by air express a shipment of brain tissue (KURU), imbedded in paraffin blocks, for the Herpes Simplex virus fluorescent antibody (indirect Coomb's) studies, about which Dr. Gajdusek, in his letter from New Guinea, informed me you so kindly agreed to do. In this connection I am enclosing a duplicate list of the pertinent data---as to the treatment of the specimens. The paraffin blocks and the lists were obtained from Dr. Igor Klatzo, head of Clinical Neuropathology of the NINDB, who has been collaborating with Dr. Gajdusek on Kuru pathology. I believe Dr. Klatzo will write to you as well.

Should you require further information as to the subjects involved, please notify me, since I have the case histories. The pencilled corrections on the enclosed lists were made after the shipment had gone off.

Dr. Gajdusek wished me to extend his greetings and express his gratitude for your collaboration. I shall look forward to the results of your studies, Dr. Sabin.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Marion Poms
Secretary to
D. Carleton Gajdusek, M.D.
National Institute of Neurological
Diseases and Blindness

Enclosure

DR. SABIN

PARAFFIN BLOCKS ON THREE KURU CASES (BRAIN TISSUE EMBEDDED)

NA 47-58 ATONA - Date of Autopsy - October 7, 1957

NA 48-58 ISOISI - Date of Autopsy - October 16, 1957

NA 49-58 TASIKO - Date of Autopsy - August 19, 1957 2 hours POST MORTEM

The Brain Tissues were removed from the ~~Formaldehyde~~ ^{FORMAL-SALINE} and cut into sections for embedding on March 12, 1958, at the Clinical Neuropathology Laboratory, NINDB, NIH.

Procedures of Embedding were the same on all three cases. All tissues that were sectioned were processed within 3 to 5 days (into Paraffin Blocks).

I. THE LARGE BRAIN TISSUE FIRST - BY HAND

80% Alcohol plus Formalin (90cc. of 80% Alcohol plus 10% Formaldehyde).

All Temperatures are at room temperatures unless specified differently.

80% Alcohol (2 Changes)
95% Alcohol (3 Changes - in 8 hours).

Room Temperature varied from 72°C to 76°C. (This was done in 3 days to 5 days)

SECONDLY - IN TECHNICON FOR THE LARGE BRAIN TISSUE

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Absolute Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 2. Absolute Alcohol | 3 hours |
| 3. Absolute Alcohol | 3 hours |
| 4. Chloroform (Full Strength) | 8½ hours |
| 5. Chloroform & Toluene (½ & ½) | 1½ hours |
| 6. Paraffin Toluene | 1½ hours (at 60°C) |
| 7. 1st Paraffin | 2 hours (at 60°C) |
| 8. 2nd Paraffin | 1 hour (at 60°C in oven) |
| 9. 3rd Paraffin | 1 hour ↓ In Vacuum Oven at 60 °C and Embedded in Tissuemat (Fisher's) |

II. SMALLER BRAIN TISSUE - IN TECHNICON

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. 80% Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 2. 80% Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 3. 95% Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 4. 95% Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 5. 95% Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 6. (1) Absolute Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 7. (2) Absolute Alcohol | 2 hours |
| 8. ½ Absolute Alcohol & ½ Toluene | 2 hours |
| 9. Toluene | 2 hours |
| 10. Toluene | 2 hours |
| 11. Toluene & Paraffin | 2 hours (at 60 °C) |
| 12. Paraffin (Tissuemat) | 2 hours (at 60 °C) |