

ED/315 /70

February 1970

20 FEB 1970

Dear Dr. Pillay:

Thank you for your letter dated 16th February, 1970.

I am glad to note that you are proceeding with a survey for detection of abnormal haemoglobin in a sample of population there. I have also received a few strips of electrophoretograms about which you need my comments. I wish you had given some details for my guidance about these samples especially about those that show abnormal fractions. Moreover, you have a normal sample unstained and I wonder how this looks after staining. This is because you have included some strips that are stained and some not stained. I also wish to know whether you have done sickling test on these.


In short, before I comment on them please give some details of the samples (cases). Before doing this, please request Dr. Krishna Das to write a letter to me officially for me to have it on my files stating the nature of work you are doing and a line introducing you.

It is heartening to find that you are doing very well with your electrophoretic run and needs a little standardization. I shall be glad to give you any help in this connection, when once the initial formalities as mentioned above are gone through. Buffer need be changed only once a fortnight or earlier depending on the evaporation and consequent ionic concentration. Ideal current to use is about 2 mA per strip of 3½" wide. As foetal haemoglobin is not separated on paper by this method, it is advisable to have alkali denaturation test done on your samples. For your guidance I give below two good references:

- i) Laboratory Manual on Abnormal Haemoglobins.  
By: J.H.JONXIS and T.H.J. HUISMAN (1968)  
Blackwell Publications, Oxford.
- ii) Laboratory characterization of Human Haemoglobins.  
By: E.J.WATSON-WILLIAMS and D.J.WEATHERALL.  
Abnormal Haemoglobins in Africa (1965), Blackwell Publ. Oxf.

With very good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
P. K. Sukumaran  
Scientific Officer.

Dr.M.V.Pillai, M.B.B.S.  
Rajitha, Trivandrum-12.

TRIVANDRUM.

16. 2. 70.

To  
Dr P. K. Sukumaran  
Room no 211, Cancer Research Institute  
Tata Memorial Hospital  
Parel, Bombay

Dear Mr Sukumaran,

Let me introduce first as Dr M. V. Pillai

a post graduate student in medicine working under Dr KVK Das. Dr Das has told me that he had discussions with you at Bombay when he came for the API Conference.

We are proceeding with our survey for detection of abnormal Haemoglobin in a sample of our population. I am sending herewith a few strips of electrophoretograms for your remarks. We are using the SYSTRONICS electrophoresis apparatus and veronal buffer (pH 8.6). Please state if the migration is satisfactory. We make the run for 14-16 hrs. I shall be much obliged if you kindly give your opinion on the following practical problems.

- i) How often should we change the buffer
- ii) What is the optimum current that should flow on each strip, to get the best separation and how long?

3) Should we subject all haemolysates  
to alkali denaturation even if the  
electrophoretogram shows no abnormality.

I hope it would not be  
inconvenient for you to spare some of  
your valuable time, and humbly request  
for an early reply with any more  
suggestions.

Thanking you  
Yours faithfully

M. Kumar  
16. 2. '70