



08 September 2010

Dr. Eun-Chung Park
Virology Branch, DMID, NIAID, NIH
6610 Rockledge Dr., Rm 4103
Bethesda MD 20892-7630

Dear Dr Eun-Chung Park,

Thank you for giving us guidance on how to correct our report. Once again, I apologize for the delays and for my mistakes. I am writing this cover note to give further detail on 6 issues:

1) The Countries from which samples were collected for this study.

These are: Australia, Bangladesh, China, and Mexico.

2) The new countries from which we are planning to collect samples from in year 3 of this project.

- Vietnam. Dr. Jeremy Farrar
- Bolivia. Dr. Luis Aguirre
- Peru. Dr. Victor Pacheco
- Colombia. Dr. Victoria Pereira
- Philippines. Dr. Sarah Jayme
- Malaysia. Mr. Tom Hughes
- Thailand. Dr. Thiravat Hemachudha
- United States. Dr. Maartin Vonhof

Contact details for these coordinators and collaborators for all countries (including those in #1, above) are also included in our report. Please let us know if there is any other information you require for State Department approval.

3) IACUC approval for sample collection

Sample collection from bats from Australia, Bangladesh, China, Malaysia, and Mexico has been approved through our IACUC process in the letter that is filed with NIAID (Assurance no. A1250-03). An amendment to our existing IACUC is pending for Vietnam, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Philippines, and Thailand. The IACUC committee chair will be able to approve these additions without going to a meeting of the IACUC committee. We expect to have news on this within the month.

4) PPE requirements

All of our fieldworkers have been trained in, and wear, appropriate PPE for handling bats and bat samples.

5) Biodefense select agents

None of the work in our project involves select agents, and none of the funds from this R01 have been used for select agent work. Where we have collected samples from bats that are known reservoirs of some select agents (e.g. *Pteropus* spp. which are the reservoirs of Nipah virus), we have done this to identify novel pathogens and not to work on these select agents. Likewise where we have found a novel filovirus in one bat species, this is not Ebola virus, but a different, bat-borne filovirus.

6) Handling of live viruses

None of the work in this project involves the handling of live virus, virus culture, or other similar work – all of the viral discovery work is conducted on the original samples and involves amplified genetic material, not cultured microbes.

Please let me know, via our SRO Mr. Chmura, if there is any other information you need, or further clarification of any issues. We are available over the holiday weekend and throughout September and will rapidly respond when you contact us.

Thanks again for your advice and guidance,

Yours sincerely,

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Dr Peter Daszak
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