



Medical College of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University

8/31/87

Perry A. Chapdelaine, Sr.
The Rheumatoid Disease Foundation
Rt. 4, Box 7
Franklin, TN 37064

Dear Perry:

I am writing in response to your request for a summary of the results from our first experiment using clotrimazole in an animal model of inducible arthritis, to include in the Foundation's next fund raising appeal. Investigation of clotrimazole using *in vivo* models is an important assessment for documenting the effectiveness of clotrimazole in the treatment of arthritis. The standard in science is that new findings, before being made public, first should be accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Therefore, in thinking further about your request, I do not feel that it would yet be proper to publicize the findings. Since we have concluded only one *in vivo* experiment, further studies are needed to substantiate and expand upon these results before they are submitted for publication.

I appreciate your sense of mission to help the over seven million rheumatoid arthritis sufferers by increasing awareness of new forms of therapy and by sponsoring research like mine to expand scientific knowledge of the disease. I wish that I could be of further help and honor your request, but to do so would compromise the scientific integrity of our studies. I also think that piecemeal disclosures would tend to discourage the eventual acceptance of our results.

Hopefully you understand my feelings on this matter and are not too disappointed.

Sincerely yours,

Brian M. Susskind, Ph.D.
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