

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
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DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

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May 23, 1984

Drs. P. K. Pybus and
A. H. Davies
404 United Building
181 Church Street
Pietermaritzburg 3201
South Africa

Dear Doctors,

Thank you for your letter of May 15. As I have been communicating with Mr. Chapdelaine, I have examined 23 samples so far but have not found any amoebae. Samples collected after drug treatments did not produce any viable cells: only a few samples that had been collected have produced some viable cells. (before drug administration)

At the present time, I have two cultures going that have several cell types; some squamous, those with spikes, others with many granules, and still others with round pseudopodia apparently crawling over other flattened cells. The last group seems to represent macrophages, although I am not very positive. I plan to obtain expert opinion from researchers at the hospital. So, it is possible to culture macrophages from synovial fluids. By the way, these two cultures have been going for 4 weeks, and the cells have been definitely multiplying. I have been renewing the culture medium every 3 or 4 days.

It seems that some researchers have already tested the effect of some anti-protozoal drugs on cultured macrophages. However, if you think that more work should be done, I will be happy to cooperate. First, I will have to separate the different cell types and characterize them.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Kwang W. Jeon
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c.c. Mr. P. A. Chapdelaine

In their letter of 5/15, 84, that they concluded the "moving objects" in synovial fluids to be macrophages and not amoebae. KWS.