Bob Gallo

From: Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E] (b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Gallo, Robert (b) (6)>
Cc: Disbrow, Gary (OS/ASPR/BARDA) <(b) (6)>; Kadlec, Robert (OS/ASPR/IO) (b) (6)>; Tabak, Lawrence (NIH/OD) [E] <(b) (6)>; Shuy, Bryan (OS/ASPR/IO) (b) (6)v>; Johnson, Robert (OS/ASPR/BARDA) (b) (6)>; Mascola, John (NIH/VRC) [E] (b) (6)>; Lane, Cliff (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)>
Subject: Your query to Dr. Kadlec

Dear Bob,

It's been quite a while since we've chatted. Bob Kadlec asked me to respond to your query about the possible use of OPV to activate innate immunity and provide COVID-19 protection. Has this been tested in a non-human primate model? I note the recommendation below that says a clinical trial is planned – can you tell me more about that?

As you can imagine, we are all flat out on the vaccine development pathway!

Francis

The use of oral polio vaccine (OPV) to prevent SARS-CoV2 (Polio Eradication Campaign)

There is no evidence that oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV) protects people against infection with COVID-19 virus.

A clinical trial addressing this question is planned in the USA, and WHO will evaluate the evidence when it is available.

In the absence of evidence, WHO does not recommend OPV vaccination for the prevention of COVID-19. WHO continues to recommend OPV as part of essential immunization services to prevent poliomyelitis and as part of global polio eradication efforts.

There are experimental signals from various studies over the years that OPV has non-specific effects on the immune system. These effects have not been well characterized and their clinical relevance is unknown. Such non-specific effects may