

Stanfield Rogers

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
CENTER FOR THE HEALTH SCIENCES
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38163

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY
PHONE 528-6150

November 6, 1974

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

This preliminary note is enclosed with two reprints on the arginase deficient children. A more detailed letter will be forthcoming, but I wanted to get the two articles in the mail. I don't have a brochure for the meeting itself so I have included a Memorandum from the Program Committee Chairperson. The message on the Memorandum is not relevant, but the letterhead gives information on name, dates etc for the meeting.

The comment by Krebs (see page 251 in article entitled Argininaemia) on tissue distribution of arginase is a point in favor of the experiment which I had not appreciated. My recent visit to Germany confirmed my initial impression that the attempted treatment was a soundly conceived plan which was formulated and executed by a competent group of scientists. Following our telephone conversation I reconfirmed the informed consent with Stan Rogers. Both verbally and on paper, the parents were thoroughly informed and gave their consent.

This proposed symposium is an attempt to document the attempted treatment from the point of view of science and history. Your advice will be eagerly awaited, but I think that this attempted treatment could be the basis of the right program in front of the right audience at the right time. Dr. Columbo as the expert on urea cycle defects, Dr. Terheggen as the pediatrician and Dr. Rogers as the Shope virus expert would be the proposed backbone of the program. We both know Stan's work and Terheggen and Columbo are both very solid. Any suggestion would be most welcome, but my proposal would include an additional speaker to discuss the ethical and scientific issues of such an experimental approach. The half-day session might end with a round table discussion focused on the possibility of discovering another family with the same defect.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Byrne

William E. Byrne, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman and
Director, Brain Research Institute

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Encl: Reprints
Memorandum

Rogers, Stanfield