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Belo Horizonte, August 12, 2011

To

Professor Paul Kaye, Ph.D., FRCPath.
Deputy Dean (Research), Hull York Medical School, and Director, Centre for
Immunology and Infection Department of Biology and Hull York Medical School
University of York
Wentworth Way, York YO10 5YW, UK

Subject: Letter of support to the global network for research and training in
leishmaniasis

Dear Professor Paul Kaye,

We are from a Laboratory in the Department of General Pathology at Institute of Biologic Sciences in the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. We are in an endemic area of leishmaniasis and have been working mainly with pathology of canine visceral leishmaniasis and human cutaneous leishmaniasis for almost 20 years. We have also done experimental research in mice as a model for visceral and tegumentar. A few years ago we developed a immunohistochemistry method to detect parasites in the skin that has widely being used around Brazil to improve the diagnosis of the disease in dogs and human beings, both visceral and tegumentar diseases. We would be pleased to help with the development of this research and training program and would like to offer our support to create this network. UFMG is one of the biggest federal universities in Brazil being a research center of reference of the disease for many years.

Please consider including our laboratory in this network and let us know how we could be helping, directly, to create such important program.

Best regards.

Professor Wagner Luiz Tafuri
DVM, PhD, Chairman of Graduate Program in Pathology

Professor Ricardo Gonçalves
DVM, PhD