

MERCK SHARP & DOHME

RESEARCH LABORATORIES

DIVISION OF MERCK & CO., INC. RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY 07065

NORMAN G. BRINK, Ph. D.
DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

June 8, 1967

For information only.
please refer to
R. West
Chemistry

Dr. Robert West
Department of Chemistry
The University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 43706

Dear Doctor West:

Thank you for your letter of June 2 inquiring about our university compound testing program. I am delighted by your interest. As you may know, I visited The University of Wisconsin early in March to talk about the program with a number of the organic chemists in the Department there, but did not have an opportunity to see you that day.

I assume that you are familiar with the general nature of our program from your discussions with Dr. Scherer in Berkeley or, possibly, from talking with Barry Frost or some of the other people in Madison. Our letter of agreement that we use to formalize the arrangement outlines in general terms the procedure we follow, as well as recording our thoughts and intentions with respect to anything of commercial interest that might arise from our working together. I have already sent individually addressed copies of this letter to some of your colleagues, although to date I have not received any of them back.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing two copies of this letter of agreement addressed to you. Please note that we ask that you and someone in the University Administration sign one copy of the letter and return it to me. When this formality has been taken care of, we can proceed with the matter of satisfying the NIH requirements and getting on with the actual testing of compounds.

As far as your NIH support is concerned, we comply fully with the NIH requirements before studying your samples. What this involves is simply the signing by Merck and by the University of Wisconsin and yourself of an amended version of the so-called "tripartite" patent agreement with the NIH. The NIH is entirely familiar with our testing program, and we have been signing large numbers of these patent agreements with many institutions around the country. You will note from our letter that as a matter of Merck's own policy, we prefer to wait until a compound made with NIH support has been published or in a student thesis for a year before actually starting to test it. I hope that this restriction will not cause you too much concern.

Dr. Robert West

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I have looked over the reprints that you sent, and would be most surprised if many of these compounds would not hold appeal to our people for their various testing programs. I hope that our arrangement is attractive to you, and will be looking forward to hearing from you about it. If you have any questions at all, by all means write me or telephone me collect in Rahway at 201-381-5000, Ext. 3447. It is our position that we will be more than pleased to modify the letter of agreement if you or the University would wish to see it modified.

Sincerely yours,

Norman G. Brink

Norman G. Brink

NGB:MSG
Enclosure