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JUN 18 1963

June 15, 1963

ISTITUTO DI GENETICA
UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA
VIA SANT'EPIFANIO, 14
PAVIA

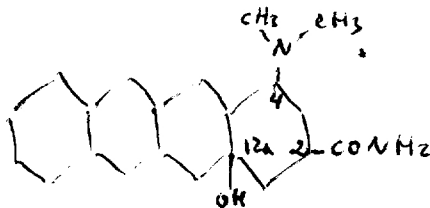
Prof. Joshua Lederberg
Stanford University
Medical Center
Department of Genetics
P a l o A l t o, Calif.

Dear Josh,

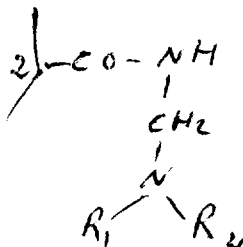
this is to answer to your letter of May 23rd. I am glad to see that you will probably arrange something with Varon.

As far as your questions on tetracyclines, the only information I have on Ester derivatives are the following:

- A) Esters from acetyl to propional and even longer chains have been described where the esterification was done in position 12a



- B) Many other compounds which are not really esters but Mannich bases have been described in position 2 having the following general formula:



Mofoni

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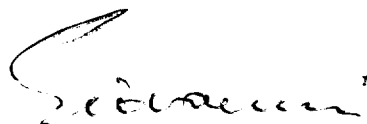
These are very instable and hydrolize# very quickly. These 2 groups are the only derivatives of tetracycline, I know, which are not changed in the nucleus: unless we consider changes out of the nucleus the decarbamino-acetyl-derivatives in position 2 and the N-methyl-ethyl-derivatives in position 4.

If you are interested in the detailed references of anyone of these groups, please let me know.

Unfortunately our knowledge on antibiotics rather than tetracyclines is limited but I will try to find out what is known according to your request.

Sofar we did not get any news either from Schering or Lepetit. On the 1st of July we let you know something when the deadline for the discontinuation of the present contract will be expired.

As ever,



G. E. Magni