

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
University Professor  
The Rockefeller University  
1230 York Avenue  
New York, NY 10021-6399



Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I enjoyed our brief meeting this past Friday at the Lasker celebration. I took note of your interest in the issues concerning the process of translation of new science to its incorporation into clinical medicine. John Clements' observations were made and published in 1957 and were based on basic science that went back to the days of LaPlace. I know he is currently writing his history, and it will be an important contribution.

Meanwhile, Dr. Julius Comroe who lured John Clements from Edgewood to the University of California, San Francisco, did describe the history of understanding the pulmonary surfactants in his remarkable book, Retrospectroscope: Insights into Medical Discovery, which was published initially by the Von Gehr Press in Menlo Park, California, but is currently available from the Perinatology Press, PO Box 6827, Ithaca, New York 14851. I have meanwhile made copies of the relevant chapters and enclose them for your interest.

I hope we have time to discuss some of these fascinating issues in the future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ellen Avery".

Mary Ellen Avery, MD

MEA:erc

Enclosures

see P209.