

2. Title: Survey for Antibodies to Herpesvirus Simiae in Man and Other Higher Primates.

Principal Investigators:

Richard O. Spertzel, Major, VC
Kwanyuen Lawhaswasdi, D.V.M.

Objective: The object of this study is to determine by the use of cell culture techniques if there are people or other primates in and among SEATO animal colonies that have circulating antibodies against monkey B virus. This work was completed during the period 1 July — 30 Sept 1966.

Summary: Primary weanling rabbit kidney cells were used to replicate an attenuated strain of monkey B virus furnished by WRAIR. Dilutions of sera drawn from monkeys, gibbons and workers in and around the animal colonies were screened for their ability to protect tube cultured monolayers from the cytopathic effect (CPE) caused by this virus. One hundred sixty-one sera were checked for the presence of this antibody. Twenty-four of these were found to be positive. The total comprised one hundred thirty-five primate sera and twenty six human sera. Ten monkey sera, eight gibbon and six human sera were found to be positive. Results of the initial findings were confirmed by a single repetition of the experiments. Experiments were performed in an attempt to assure that these were not cross reactive antibodies to herpes simplex virus. A strain of herpes simplex was obtained from the virus department. These positive sera did not neutralize this strain of herpes simplex.