

July, 2003

Dear DNA Bank participant,

This letter is to thank you for all of your patience and perseverance. We were permitted to return to Texas Tech University Health Science Center on June 16, 2003, to retrieve some of the DNA samples and brain samples in storage there. If you receive this letter, we have your DNA sample and/or the tissue from your loved one. (If your name is on the envelope, we have your sample.) It was a long legal battle to get to this point, but at least we have some of the samples to continue the research. Last year we were given four months to obtain reconsents to transfer the samples that we had collected over a seven year period. We received over 1800 forms which we sent to Tech by their deadline of July 30, 2002. They accepted 1500 of the forms and rejected the remainder. Their primary reason for rejection was because the date that the participant signed did not match the date of the witness signature.

We will be in touch with you as we would like to update the information on your family. Much has happened in three years. We have also received inquiries from additional family members wanting to participate. We could not respond until we knew which samples we would be allowed to have. Now we can say that if you have family members who want to participate, we can enroll them by mail. Just call us. We realize that it is difficult for you to know which samples in your family that we do have, but call, write, or email us and we will tell you.

We have started another DNA Bank here in Georgia and South Carolina. We have already started to work on the Texas samples. Together we will fight these dreadful diseases. Visit our web site at <http://www.mcg.edu/alzres/>

Once again, thank you for your patience and loyalty. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

S.E. Poduslo, Ph.D.  
Professor