



December 29, 2011

Professor Marco A. Zago  
Coordinator, Center for Cell Therapy  
University of Sao Paulo  
Ribeirao Preto, SP, Brazil

Dear Professor Zago:

This letter confirms that my laboratory is actively collaborating with Dr. Rodrigo Calado at the Center of Cell Therapy, University of Sao Paulo at Ribeirao Preto. Together our groups are investigating telomere diseases and the role of telomere and telomerase dysregulation in hematopoietic stem cell function and tissue homeostasis and repair.

Dr. Calado was a postdoctoral fellow and then Staff Scientist at the Hematology Branch, NHLBI, for 8 years. In this period, he discovered that telomerase insufficiency and accelerated telomere attrition are etiologic in several human diseases. He co-authored several papers with investigators from the University of Sao Paulo during that time.

Dr. Calado is a superb basic and translational investigator. It is extremely valuable to continue our productive working relationship. Future discoveries should be scientifically significant and directly benefit patients with blood, liver, and lung diseases. Future collaboration will involve the exchange of post-doctoral fellows.

Any questions can be addressed to me by e-mail at [youngn@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:youngn@nhlbi.nih.gov) or by phone at 301-496-5093.

Sincerely yours,

*N.S. Young, M.D.*

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and Inflammation