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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0529

HENRY A. WAXMAN
29TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

January 31, 2000

RANKING MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
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MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
DEMOCRATIC STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. Ruth Kirschstein
Acting Director
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

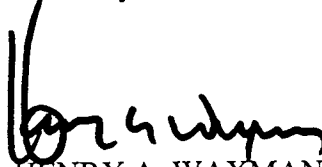
Dear Dr. Kirschstein:

I understand that you are in the process of answering my January 10 letter concerning the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) oversight of human gene therapy trial protocols. I appreciate the efforts you and your staff have made to provide this information.

I am writing to further request copies of the 652 serious adverse event reports cited in Dr. Varmus' December 21, 1999 letter. The enclosed *Washington Post* article from this morning states that these reports include patient deaths which were not disclosed to the NIH prior to its November 22, 1999 memorandum to institutions conducting gene therapy trials.

I appreciate your attention to this request and ask that the adverse event reports be provided to my office by close of business, Wednesday, February 2. If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Paul Kim on my staff at (202) 225-3976.

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

Enclosure