

Comment 16

David G. Kaufman

-----Original Message-----

From: Howard Garrison [SMTP:hgarrison@mail.faseb.org]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2000 5:21 PM
To: linda.therkorn@uspto.gov
Cc: uncdgk@med.unc.edu
Subject: Revised Interim Utility Examination Guidelines

Dear Ms. Therkorn:

David G. Kaufman, MD-PhD, asked me to transmit the following comments to you:

I support the patenting of genes where the complete sequence is known and a function of the gene product determined. I am concerned that patenting of segments of genes, including those identified by expressed sequence tags (ESTs), will impede the more complete characterization and patenting of genes and delay or restrict the commercial exploration of these patents for the public good. I urge that you apply high standards of "specific, substantial, and credible" evidence in conferring patents to DNA sequences, as recommended by NIH.

Sincerely:

David G. Kaufman, MD-PhD
Professor
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of North Carolina
515 Brinkhous-Bullitt Building
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7525

Howard H. Garrison, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814
voice: (301) 571-0657
fax: (301) 571-0686