



*file*  
*NIH working group*  
*copy to Donelle Bennett Francis Powell Nobis Force WSETF*  
*orig to me*  
*retractable*

# Memorandum

Date April 14, 1983  
From Director, NCI  
Subject Formation of the NCI-AIDS Task Force  
To NCI Staff

During March 1983, NCI had a number of discussions addressing the recent intensification and spread of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), especially in the areas of etiology and AIDS-associated neoplasms. To meet this new challenge in a most direct and immediate fashion, NCI has set up an intramural Task Force dedicated expressively to finding answers relative to the causation and treatment of this problem.

The Task Force will provide a central focus and thrust for new initiatives on AIDS emphasizing the possible role of etiologic agents. The Task Force will bring to bear the concept of rapid deployment of NCI talent and resources as a response to a problem of national importance. Various intra- and extramural efforts will be coordinated in this activity.

Dr. R. Gallo, Chief, LTCB, DCT, whose unique expertise in the isolation of human oncogenic viruses is world renowned, will act as the Scientific Director of the Task Force. Dr. S. Broder, Deputy Clinical Director, will function as the Clinical Director of the effort. Drs. J. Killen and J. Cooper will represent the DCT and DCCP Extramural Programs. Besides the extended functioning of intramural activities at NIH, P<sub>3</sub> laboratory space is being activated at the FCRF. PRI, which manages the technical support contract at FCRF, will interact directly with the Task Force, and several pertinent units of this contract will function as an integral component of this effort. NCI Division Directors have expressed an intensive interest in this activity and will be as supportive as possible.

Dr. P. Fischinger, Associate Director, NCI, will be the over-all leader of the Task Force, and the coordination of the effort will be implemented through his office.

*VTD*  
Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., M.D.