

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
Nobel Committee for Chemistry
Box 50005
S-104 05 Stockholm
SWEDEN

October 25th, 2004

Dear Nobel Committee Members,

The Nobel Committee gave me the great honour of being one of the scientists responsible for the nomination of candidates for the 2004 Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

I may assure you that I took this honour upon myself with full seriousness and sense of responsibility. After making a detailed analysis of discoveries in chemistry over the last 25 years, I came to the conclusion that the research group of Dr. Wassil Nowicky, Dr. Anatoli Potopalski and Dr. Maria Olievska had achieved a great scientific feat; they had synthesised a substance with the unique property of selectively accumulating in cancer cells.

I am deeply convinced that your scientific recognition, your personal sympathies and your votes would most certainly have gone to this discovery if you had had the opportunity of making yourself familiar with the documentation provided. It is not by chance that I use the subjunctive in this case – I am not completely sure if the documentation I provided and the candidates I nominated were dealt with by the Nobel Committee for Chemistry. The reason for this is the strange story of how the documentation with the nomination twice went missing in transit, as you can see for yourselves from the enclosures. Forgive my doubt, but I am not sure that this happened by chance.

In this regard I remember a case from five years ago when the documentation of another Austrian researcher Prof. Dr. Oleh Hornykewitsch (also of Ukrainian origin) went probably missing and the Nobel Prize for his discovery was awarded to other people. 250 leading international experts in the field of neurophysiology vigorously protested and expressed their indignation at such an injustice in an open letter to the Nobel Committee. This story is possibly repeating itself and, for a reason unknown to me, people who have made such a discovery are not taken into account by you and thereby not by the public.

I take the liberty of reminding you that thousands of scientists have already tried to find a substance that accumulates selectively and efficiently in cancer cells without in therapeutic dose attacking healthy cells. However, only the above-mentioned group has managed this epoch-making discovery. The result of

this long research work is an anticancer preparation that its inventor has named after his country of origin – Ukrain.

The history of this preparation is complicated and even dramatic – it has already been outlined in some newspapers and magazines as well as in books. However, as a scientist I would once again like to emphasise: the unique and unparalleled property of the preparation Ukrain is that it accumulates selectively in malignant cells of the primary tumour and metastases, stops cell division and proliferation of these cells and brings about their death and decay.

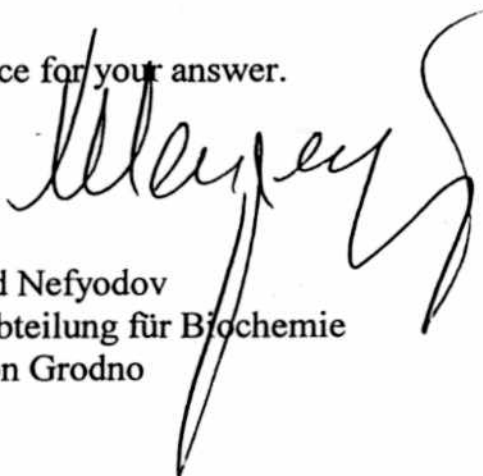
From the point of view of modern biochemistry it is absolutely clear that the discovery of the molecular mechanisms of the interaction of this substance with cancer cells will enable us to approach the events at the basis of the onset of cancer. In addition, this discovery would enable humanity to understand the basic mechanisms in the development and treatment of tumours as well as enabling the development of methods of early diagnosis and prevention of this disease.

In no way do I wish to question the expert competence of the Committee and the significance of the other discovery which received the award this year. I merely politely ask for confirmation that the documentation for my candidates was really received and dealt with by the Nobel Committee for Chemistry.

I am thoroughly convinced, along with other researchers, that such regrettable misunderstandings could be avoided if there was efficient feedback between the Committee and scientists and if the procedure for the nomination and award of this highest and most famous scientific prize could take place more transparently.

I thank you in advance for your answer.

Yours sincerely,



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