

Santé Canada

Deputy Minister

Sous-ministre

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K9

Your file

Votre référence

Our file

Notre référence

IAN 15 2004

Mr. Paul Tubiana P.O. Box 21832 Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania 18002-1832 U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Tubiana:

Thank you for your correspondence of December 7, 2003, concerning diabetes.

As Deputy Minister of Health, I recognize that diabetes is a serious health issue that creates an economic burden for those affected and their families. The Government of Canada allocated \$115 million, over five years, for the development of the Canadian Diabetes Strategy (CDS) to prevent this disease and its serious complications. Persons with type I and type II diabetes benefit from the education and awareness activities of the CDS.

Health Canada is also working at the national level toward reducing diabetes incidence and mortality by identifying trends and risk factors, assessing behavioural and environmental risks, and developing and monitoring programs to reduce these risks.

In addition, the Government provides research support for diabetes through the Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Specifically, the Institute provides research funding to address causes, prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment, and complications of diabetes, and support systems for people living with diabetes. The estimated total amount that the CIHR committed to diabetes research in 2002-03 was \$27 million. Regarding your research project, you may wish to contact the CIHR at the following Web site www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca, by e-mail at info@cihr-irsc.gc.ca, or toll free at 1 (888) 603-4178.

Unfortunately, there is no quick fix for diabetes. Its prevention and control require the combined efforts of people living with diabetes, their families, health care providers and institutions, governments, and voluntary organizations.

Again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

Jan C. Green