

Report from the “HLA-SBT Training School”  
Basic & Advanced Course 12- 15 September 2006  
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I come from the small island of Guadeloupe in the Caribbean Sea, with an experience of HLA typing by serological technique. By the year 2003 my hospital received the agreement for kidney transplant although we practiced for many years kidneys prelevements. With this new challenge we introduced other molecular HLA typing techniques such as PCR SSP and PCR SSO. According to our mode of population due to history, we knew that we had many peculiars HLA alleles and these previous techniques sometimes did not help to identified.

I had theoretical knowledge of HLA sequencing, but at this time it sounded so inaccessible. When I heard about HLA SBT training school animated by Genome Diagnostic I started to contemplate sequencing as the way to resolve our problems. I must say that the way the information reached to me seems incredible. I eventually postulated for subscription to the course. And I must say that only by corresponding by email on the subject I could feel the will of my correspondent to get me in the course.

Indeed, I got on the site a very warm welcome and since the first hour the atmosphere was appropriate to learn and to work, plus the fact that Utrecht offers a very nice environment. Every one in the staff was at your disposal to get a clear understanding of the sequencing methodology that they have conceived. The system is simple and the software easy to use. For those who like me have no practical experience of HLA sequencing, the HLA-SBT training school is a good way to start.