samples. The only significant difference between our method and that of Barker *et al.* is that they spot the blood directly on the filter, whereas we make a phenol extraction before application of the sample. This can hardly be regarded as new since investigators engaged in DNA-based diagnosis of hepatitis B virus are using similar methods. In our paper we also described a partial sequence of our clone, and the whole repeat has since been further characterized and sequenced by us (*2*) and by others (*3*). The use of repetitive DNA for malaria diagnosis has also been reported by other investigators (*4*).

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4. Y. Pollack *et al.*, *Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg.* **34**, 663 (1985); G. L. McLaughlin *et al.*, *ibid.*, p. 837.

Response: The focus of our work and our report is the development of DNA probe–based methods for the diagnosis of infectious agents, primarily parasites in the developing world. This requires both a specific DNA probe and more important, a method that will allow its use under field conditions directly from clinical samples. Methodologies that require sample extraction or complex experimental procedures such as those suggested by Franzén *et al.* may work very well in the laboratories of the developed world, but our extensive field experience with DNA probes for leishmaniasis, filariasis, and now malaria clearly indicates that simple, direct sample application procedures are necessary if this methodology is to have any future utility for people living in endemic areas. Much of our effort was devoted to developing such direct sample application methods and then testing them directly in the field in Thailand, Brazil, and subsequently Africa. The Franzén *et al.* paper is quoted in our report (reference 4) and we attempted to point out the advantages of our methods over those previously reported. Our focus in this work is not on the molecular biology of repeated DNA sequences but instead on the practical field application of DNA probe–based diagnostics for malaria.

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Erratum: In the Table of Contents for the issue of 16 January (p. 260), the authors of the article "Geologic evolution of northern Tibet: Results of an expedition to Ulugh Muztagh" on page 299 should have been listed as P. Molnar, B. C. Burchfiel, Z. Zhao, K. Liang, S. Wang, and M. Huang.

Erratum: In Mark Crawford's article "Genentech sues FDA on growth hormone" (News & Comment, 20 Mar., p. 1454), antibody response that occurs in some patients using Protropin was incorrectly portrayed as the result of the product's 192nd amino acid—a methionyl. While the methionyl may be involved in the antibody responses of a limited number of Protropin users, there is evidence that antibody formation is a result of a number of factors. In particular, the precise details of the manufacturing process appear to be the major factor in determining the antigenicity of growth hormone preparations.

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