

Epilogue of the first part

From 1990, J. Benveniste explored other experimental models in order to avoid some of the inconveniences of the basophil model. A new experimental system appeared to be very promising. With this new device, no intermediary human "counter" – both experimenter and measuring device – was needed. This new model – the system of Langendorff – consisted of a classic preparation which allows physiologists to study the functioning of an isolated heart of rat or guinea pig. Its main advantage was that one could directly "see" the effect of high dilutions without any intermediary. The public that attended demonstrations could thus be observer, actor and witness at the same time.

This "spectacular" biological system allowed J. Benveniste to propose new concepts such as "electronic transmission of molecular signal" and "digitization of molecular signal" in the framework of a hypothetical "digital biology". This new approach contributed to further marginalize him from both scientific community and his former supports in homeopathic circles. Most scientists considered that J. Benveniste had definitely crossed the lines and was too far from the limits of what is reasonable. Nevertheless, J. Benveniste repeatedly thought during this period that he was about to succeed "within six months".

These results – less broadcasted and not as well known as the results on basophils – are certainly more surprising and more destabilizing. We describe them in the second part of this book. We will see the promises, the hopes, the surprises, the perplexity that these new experiments have induced. We will also analyze their limits that bring *a posteriori* an odd light on the overall story.