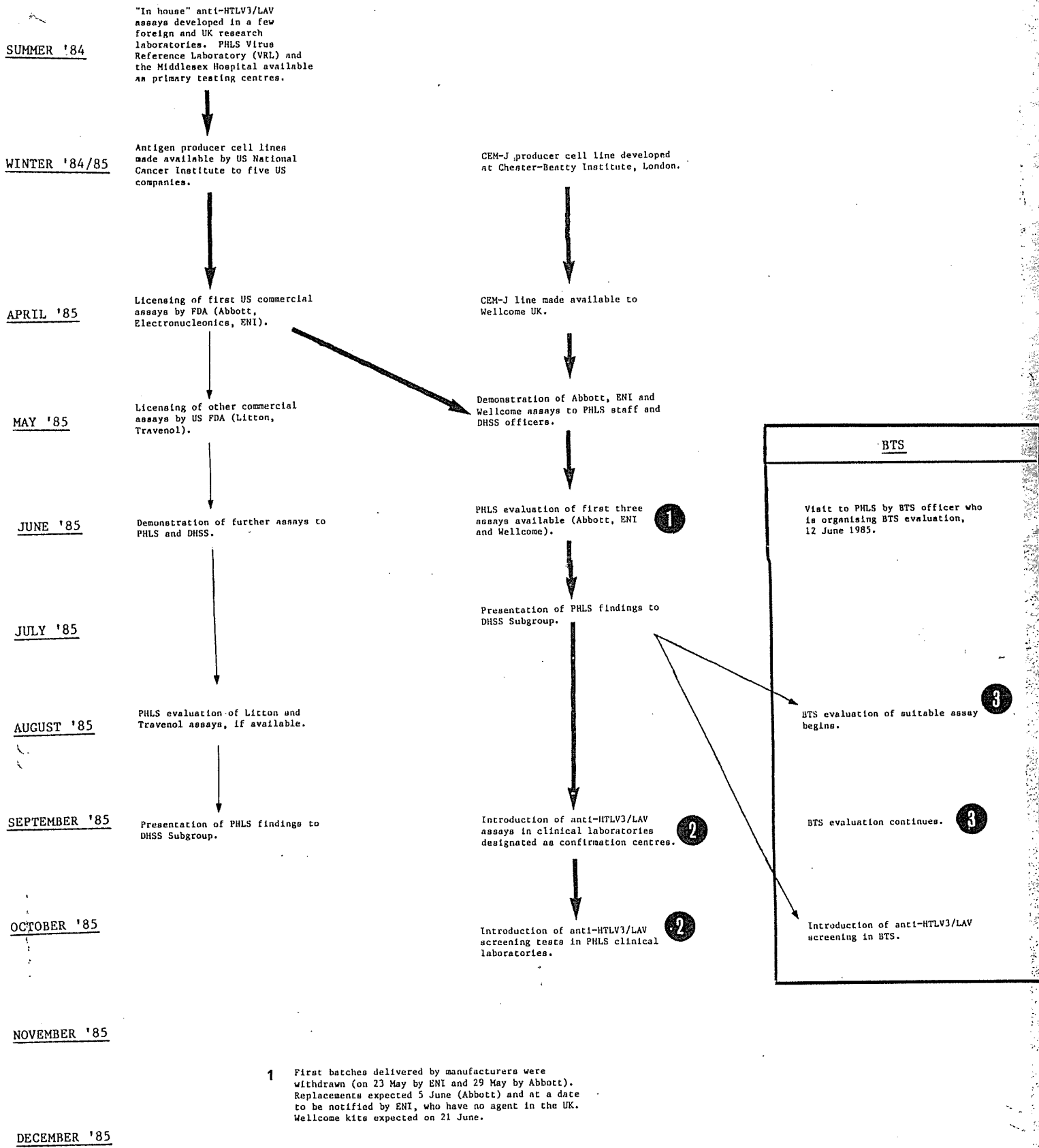


PRODUCTION, EVALUATION & INTRODUCTION  
OF SCREENING TESTS



1 First batches delivered by manufacturers were withdrawn (on 23 May by ENI and 29 May by Abbott). Replacements expected 5 June (Abbott) and at a date to be notified by ENI, who have no agent in the UK. Wellcome kits expected on 21 June.

2 The "Confirmation Laboratories" other than VRL all require upgrading to meet current ACDP safety guidelines, and will need some new equipment. A bid for the funding needed was submitted to DHSS on 22 May 1985.

3 The two intermediate steps introduce a degree of duplication and therefore delay.

TRAINING

STANDARDISATION AND QUALITY CONTROL

CONFIRMATION OF RESULTS

REPORTING RESULTS TO COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

First meeting of PHLS anti-HTLV3/LAV testing group.

Demonstration of commercial assays to staff of confirmation laboratories.

First training course at VRL for staff of BTS and clinical laboratories.

Preparation of first panel of control standard sera for issue to laboratories.

Panel made available to BTS and clinical laboratories.

Preparation and distribution of PHLS Standard and "Cut-off" sera.

Second panel of sera prepared.

Distributed to all testing laboratories.

Analysis of results.

Process repeated six-monthly.

"Request for confirmation of anti-HTLV3/LAV result" form drafted.

Designation of VRL and six other large PHLS laboratories as confirmation laboratories. Bid to DHSS for funding submitted 22 May, 1985.

Agreement on draft form.

Agreement on uniform confirmation system, provisionally by indirect competitive solid phase assay, immunofluorescence, and Western blotting.

Discussion of performance of commercial assays based on feed-back from requests for confirmatory tests.

Reporting system for anti-HTLV3/LAV tests set up.

First monthly reports of anti-HTLV3/LAV tests in Communicable Disease Report.

Monthly reports and analyses continue.