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COVER LEGEND

The concept of metastases is a 19th century arrival to the field of oncology. Its early acceptance was hindered because of prevailing beliefs on the constitutional origins of neoplastic diseases. This issue commemorates two pioneer students of cancer metastases and localism.

Joseph Claude Anselme Récamier (1774-1852), a Parisian internist, first applied the term metastasis in a cancer case report of 1829. Récamier described a secondary deposit in the brain resulting from a primary carcinoma of the breast, as follows: "The case of M. Parent leads to the admission of *cancer metastases*: here a spontaneous eruption of carcinoma is succeeded by an identical eruption at another site" [J. C. A. Récamier, *Recherches sur le traitement du cancer, par la compression méthodique simple ou combinée, et sur l'histoire générale de le même maladie* (2 volumes), Vol. 2, p. 110. Paris: Gabon, 1829]. Older landmarks in the study of neoplastic metastasis are discussed by R. J. Wilder (The Historical Development of the Concept of Metastasis. *J. Mt. Sinai Hosp. N. Y.*, 23: 728-734, 1956; W. I. B. Onuigbo, A History of Hematogenous Metastasis. *Cancer Res.*, 30: 2821-2826, 1970).

Sir James Paget (1841-1899), famed surgeon of London's St. Bartholomew's Hospital, is remembered eponymously for his description of chronic disorders of the mammary areola preceding cancer of the mammary glands (Paget's disease). As early as 1853, Paget advanced the view that cancer often erupted locally and only later resulted in such widespread occurrence as to give the appearance of a constitutional character. In this connection, he coined a term now used in another context: "Do they [species and varieties of cancer] imply so many essentially and originally different morbid materials? or is there one material for cancer, one carcinogen, which, like an organic radical, may form different yet closely allied compounds, in its combinations with the various substances provided by different bloods, or different parts?" [J. Paget, *Lectures on Surgical Pathology*, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons of England (2 volumes), Vol. 2, p. 590. London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longman, 1853].

Récamier (*right*) is shown in a lithograph, *circa* 1840, by Alphonse Farcy, obtained from the National Library of Medicine. The portrait of Paget (*left*), *circa* 1867, by George Richmond, is by courtesy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Philadelphia.

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The Journal of Cancer Research (1916–1930) | The American Journal of Cancer (1931–1940)

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