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One of the earlier demonstrations of an association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer was a case-control study published in 1950 by a medical student and his professor of surgery (J. A. M. A., 143: 329–338, 1950).

Ernest L. Wynder was born in Germany in 1922. He received his B.A. degree from New York University in 1943 and his M.D. from Washington University in St. Louis in 1950. He began his initial interviews on lung cancer patients and controls as a sophomore student.

Evarts A. Graham (1883–1957) was a native of Chicago and was graduated with an M.D. from Rush Medical College in 1907. He was professor of surgery at Washington University School of Medicine, 1919–1951, when he became emeritus professor. He had an illustrious academic and clinical career. In 1933 he performed the first successful pneumonectomy for lung cancer.


In 1969 Wynder established and heads the American Health Foundation and publishes the journal, Preventive Medicine, in New York. In 1974 the Naylor Dana Institute for Disease Prevention was opened as part of the Foundation.

E. L. Wynder, ca. 1950, is pictured on upper right, and E. A. Graham, ca. 1950, is on upper left. The bar graph, showing the distribution by amount of smoking among 605 male patients with lung cancer and 780 men without lung cancer, is from J. A. M. A., 143: 329, 1950. The skin cancer on the back of a mouse, produced by repeated applications of cigarette "tar," is from Cancer Res., 13: 855, 1953. We are indebted to Dr. John H. Weisburger for the illustrations and other assistance.