On October 20, 1975, a ceremony was held in New York City, under the auspices of the Cancer Research Institute of New York, honoring 15 scientists for their pioneer contributions to the field of cancer immunology. The recognitions were as follows:

Ludwik Gross (Veterans Administration Hospital, Bronx, New York), Edward J. Foley (Schering Corporation, Bloomfield, New Jersey), Richmond T. Prehn (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). For finding evidence that cancer cells have specific antigens that can elicit a cancer-destructive immune response.

Hans O. Sjögren (University of Lund, Lund, Sweden). For demonstrating that tumor viruses can impart antigens to the surface of cells that they render cancerous, and so render them immunologically foreign.

Garri I. Abelev (Gamaleya Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology, Moscow, USSR). For the discovery that antigens that are normally evident only in the embryo may reappear in cancer (fetoproteins).

Robert J. Huebner (National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland). For the recognition that viral antigens may persist in animal cancers from which the causative virus itself can no longer be recovered (T-antigens).

Donald L. Morton (School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, California). For studies on immunological tolerance and for clinical observations that relate immune capacity of cancer patients to their prognosis.

Edmund Klein (Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York). For the first reproducibly effective immunological therapy for a form of human cancer.

Robert A. Good (Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, New York, New York). For research on the immune deficiencies of cancer patients and the increased incidence of certain tumors in immunologically deficient patients.

Werner and Gertrude Henle (Children's Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). For immunological research that elucidated the relation of the Epstein-Barr herpesvirus to Burkitt's lymphoma and to the self-limiting proliferative disease, infectious mononucleosis.

George and Eva Klein (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden). For discoveries of tumor-specific antigens in the mouse, to the most comprehensive immunological analysis of a human cancer, Burkitt's lymphoma.

Edward A. Boyse and Lloyd J. Old (Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, New York, New York). For studies on the antigenic composition of normal and malignant cells, and the way in which this is governed by cellular and viral genes.

In addition, a posthumous award was given to Peter A. Gorer (1907–1961) of England, for his basic work on the immunogenetic analysis of the mouse. A special William B. Coley Memorial Award was presented to Helen C. Nauts, Executive Director of the Cancer Research Institute of New York.

The photograph of the occasion includes, from left to right: Dr. Hans O. Sjögren, Dr. Robert J. Huebner, Dr. Lloyd J. Old, Dr. Edward A. Boyse, Edward J. Foley, Peter A. Gorer, Jr. (for his father), Dr. Edmund Klein, Dr. George Klein, Dr. Richmond T. Prehn, Dr. Gertrude Henle, Dr. Robert A. Good, Helen C. Nauts, Dr. Donald L. Morton, Dr. Ludwik Gross, and Dr. Werner Henle.

Not present were Dr. Garri Abelev and Dr. Eva Klein.

We are indebted to Dr. Lloyd J. Old and John Ott, Coley, Ott Associates, for the group photograph and information.


M. B. S.