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The Registry of Tumors in Lower Animals was established in 1965 at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., under contract with the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. John C. Harshbarger, Jr., has been the director of the Registry since 1967, and Dr. Clyde J. Dawe, Laboratory of Pathology, National Cancer Institute, has been the National Cancer Institute representative. Harshbarger was born in 1936 in Virginia and received his doctorate in entomology from Rutgers University in 1962. Dawe was born in 1921 in Pennsylvania and received his M.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1945.

The purpose of the Registry is to facilitate comparative studies of tumorigenesis and related disorders in invertebrate and poikilothermic vertebrate animals. Comparative pathobiology has been an important source of new observations and concepts since the days of Aristotle and performs a similar function in modern oncology. While neoplasms of mammals and birds have long been under intensive study, those of reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and the invertebrate phyla have only recently come under more careful scrutiny. The *National Cancer Institute Monograph No. 31* (C. J. Dawe and J. C. Harshbarger (eds.), 1969) is a collection of studies in comparative oncology focused upon these "lower" animals, signaling a resurgence of interest in this area. A series of reports on tumors in fishes, for example, has provided instructive leads concerning the frequent occurrence of particular neoplasms in particular species in particular habitats. Such information is in some instances a mirror of the contamination of aquatic environments with oncogenic agents. In others, it reflects the proneness of certain species to develop certain neoplasms or an interaction between genetic and environmental factors.

Pictured are Drs. Dawe (left) and Harshbarger (right), examining an Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) with multiple smooth muscle cell tumors of the swim bladder (I. Mc Knight, Aquaculture, 12: 55–60, 1978) and three fish with tumors of the head:

A bloater (*Coregonus hoyi*), contributed by L. N. Allison, with an olfactory neuroepithelioma on the snout (C. J. Dawe and J. C. Harshbarger. In: The Pathology of Fishes, pp. 871–894. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press 1975 (p. 872, Fig. 35.1).


A cunner (*Tautogolabrus adspersus*) with an ameloblastoma in left lower jaw (J. C. Harshbarger, S. Shumway, and G. Bane. Tumors in aquatic animals, Prog. Exp. Tumor Res., 20: 113–128, 1976). (p. 118, Fig. 5).

We are indebted to Mr. Richard Hofmeister, Smithsonian Institution, for taking the photograph of Dawe and Harshbarger and to Dr. Dawe for the information and material.

M. B. S.