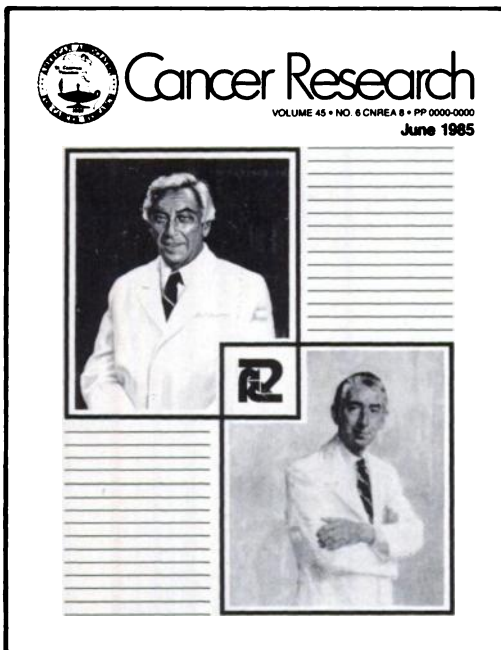


COVER LEGEND



The Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG) is a national clinical cooperative study group formed in 1969 for the purpose of conducting radiation therapy research and clinical cooperative investigations. The first chairman was Dr. Simon Kramer (*upper left*), distinguished professor at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1980, he was succeeded by

Dr. Luther W. Brady (*lower right*), the Hyla Cohn/ American Cancer Society professor of clinical oncology at Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Membership in RTOG increased from 11 at its formation to 28 members in 1984. More than 75 hospitals in the United States and Canada are participating in a variety of nonrandomized and randomized clinical trials. The 50 protocols for its studies encompass Phase I, II, and III studies.

Major accomplishments achieved by RTOG include: (1) an orderly method of protocol development with input from radiobiological research; (2) uniformity of radiotherapy techniques through workshops, protocol specifications, and a quality control program; (3) identification of optimal radiotherapy doses in selected tumor sites; (4) identification of optimal sequence of surgery and radiation in patients with resectable head and neck tumors; and (5) testing of radiobiological concepts such as oxygen effect, radioimmunoglobulins, and combined chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

Cancer Treatment Symposia (1: 1-187, 1984) summarizes the programs and achievements of the interdisciplinary program for radiation oncology research, of which RTOG is a part. The work is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and the American College of Radiology.

We are indebted to Dr. Brady for the information and illustrations.

M.B.S.