THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH ANNOUNCES

AACR Special Conference in Cancer Research

STEROID RECEPTORS, TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS, AND GENE EXPRESSION

February 10–13, 1990
Catamaran Resort Hotel, San Diego, California

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RECEPTORS AND GENE EXPRESSION
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INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS

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215-440-9300
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 11, 1989
Late applications will be accepted on a space-available basis.
The current focus on strategies for human cancer prevention has brought a role of dietary selenium to the fore and calls attention to three pioneers for their contributions to the early recognition of this element as a preventive agent. Although the nutritional essentiality of selenium dates back to 1957, early and mistaken evidence of carcinogenicity forbade any human application, under the Delaney Clause of the Food Additive Amendment, which prohibits the incorporation into food of any substance found to induce cancer in any animal. Douglass V. Frost was the first to challenge this view, and after repeatedly urging the government to recognize the nutritional value of selenium, he and Shamberger reported an epidemiological study suggesting that selenium might prevent rather than cause cancer (Can. Med. Assoc. J., 100: 682, 1969). This germinal paper did much to stimulate interest in selenium as a cancer-preventive agent.

Independently, Gerhard N. Schrauzer, with his students Rhead and Ishmael, deduced that selenium was a potential human cancer-protective agent [Experimentia (Basel), 27: 1069, 1971]. Subsequently, Schrauzer, Shamberger, Ip, Griffin, and many others have provided a wealth of evidence that cancer incidence in a variety of animal systems can be lowered by selenium.

Epidemiological evidence for a protective action of selenium against aflatoxin B1-induced liver cancer has been reported in a high incidence area of Qidong County in the Peoples Republic of China. Pilot studies toward prevention by dietary selenium enrichment are under way there.


Douglas V. Frost, top, is retired after many years on the research staff of Abbott Laboratories. He organized numerous symposia on selenium and was a consultant in nutritional biochemistry to the National Academy of Science Committee on Selenium in Animal Nutrition. Gerhard N. Schrauzer, lower right, is Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of California, San Diego. Raymond J. Shamberger, lower left, is now Senior Project Scientist, Ciba-Corning, Oberlin, Ohio, after many years at the Cleveland Clinic.

We acknowledge the assistance of Arthur Fürst in preparing the legend and supplying the photographs.

Sidney Weinhouse