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Recent Articles

R.O. Pieper, B.W. Futscher, Q. Dong, T.M. Ellis, and L.C. Erickson (Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL): Comparison of O-6-methylguanine DNA methyltransferase (MGMT) mRNA levels in Mer+ and Mer- human tumor cell lines containing the MGMT gene by the polymerase chain reaction technique.


C. Donawho and M.L. Kripke (University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX): Immunogenicity and cross-reactivity of syngeneic murine melanomas.

H.K. Schackerl, D. Fan, and I.J. Fidler (University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX): Transient inhibition of liver regeneration in mice by transforming growth factor-ß1 encapsulated in liposomes.

W. Schiecke, M. Brattain, and D. Boyd (Bristol-Baylor Laboratory, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX): Invasion of extracellular matrix by cultured colon cancer cells: Dependence on urokinase receptor display.

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Pictured on the cover with the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia are Audrey Evans and Giulio D’Angio, who have worked as partners in pediatric oncology since 1957, when they were both at Boston Children’s Hospital working with Sidney Farber, a pioneer in multidisciplinary approaches to the care of childhood cancer. In 1976 they joined forces when Dr. D’Angio became Director of the Cancer Center at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, where Dr. Evans, since 1973, had headed the clinical oncology unit and was the acting director of the center.

Audrey Evans was born in York, England, received her medical training in Edinburgh, and came to the United States in 1953 as a Fulbright Fellow, first at the Boston Children’s Hospital, then at the Harriet Lane Home at Johns Hopkins. After a brief period in the United Kingdom, she returned to Boston Children’s Hospital in 1957 where she conducted early work on autologous bone marrow transplantation. She was appointed head of the hematology-oncology unit at the University of Chicago Clinics in 1964 and 4 years later was recruited by C. Everett Koop, then Surgeon-in-Chief, to assume management of children’s cancer care at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She was the founder of the Ronald McDonald House program that has since spread worldwide to provide housing for children and their families during cancer treatment. She is a pioneer in the clinical study and treatment of childhood cancers, notably neuroblastoma, and continues her clinical and laboratory study of this unique tumor of childhood. Her contributions to the welfare of children with cancer have been recognized by many honors, including the Janeway Medal of the American Radium Society.

Giulio D’Angio, a native New Yorker, graduated from Columbia College in 1943 and Harvard Medical School in 1945 and trained in pediatric surgery at Boston Children’s Hospital, where he first encountered cancer in children. After 2 years of army service, he trained in radiology and pathology, then rejoined Boston Children’s Hospital in 1956 to assume responsibility for pediatric radiation therapy. As Sidney Farber’s radiation and chemotherapeutic regimens bore fruit and cure rates climbed, it became evident that these effective treatments sometimes caused disturbing late effects, such as organ dysfunctions and growth abnormalities. Since then, Dr. D’Angio’s career has been devoted largely to mitigating or avoiding these effects. He spent a year at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in California, where he studied the biological effectiveness of heavy ion beams. This research later became a basis for clinical trials at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where he spent 8 years after 4 years at The University of Minnesota.

He and Dr. Evans were instrumental in organizing the National Wilms’ Tumor Study, the first intergroup study to deal with a childhood neoplasm. He also founded the Late Effects Study Group, an international multiinstitutional program, and, more recently, the Histiocyte Society to promote study of the normal and abnormal physiology of that cell. He has been honored widely and received an honorary doctorate from the University of Bologna for contributions to pediatric oncology.

Since relinquishing their administrative posts at Children’s Cancer Center in July 1989, Dr. Evans has devoted her efforts to clinical and laboratory studies of neuroblastoma, while Dr. D’Angio is now Vice-Chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Pennsylvania. Photographs are courtesy of Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Sidney Weinhouse