Investigational Strategies for Detection and Intervention in Early Lung Cancer
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Organ Systems Program
Division of Cancer Biology, Diagnosis, and Centers

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NCI PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

• Assessment of how recent preclinical and clinical advances in the study of lung cancer relate to opportunities for research in early detection and to opportunities to prevent or intervene in early lung cancer.

• Assessment of the significance of current approaches for diagnosing and for treating premalignant lung disease and early cancer.

• First priority: analysis of research in the subject area and correlation of that area with the objectives of the workshop; second priority: presentation of the participant's research, but only if the research is relevant to the objectives of the workshop.

• A major aim of the workshop is to encourage interaction among extramural researchers, NCI intramural researchers, and NCI program administrators, all of whom are directly involved either in lung cancer research or in cancer funding programs. Other aims are to engage basic and clinical scientists in discussions of relevant lung cancer issues throughout the workshop and to finalize the workshop by recording the consensus priorities derived in the workshop.

COVER LEGEND

Secondary prevention efforts for lung cancer that include early detection and intervention approaches necessarily focus on the biology of the bronchial epithelium and its response to carcinogenic exposures. In large part, this interface basically comprises the field of carcinogenesis. This Supplement to Cancer Research, which contains the proceedings of the National Cancer Institute Workshop, “Investigational Strategies for Detection and Intervention in Early Lung Cancer,” represents an effort to summarize the known biology of the respiratory epithelium and offers a discussion of how biologically derived probes or biomarkers can be used to detect and monitor a particular type of cancer. Applications of this biology could also lead to rational intervention strategies to neutralize the progression of lung cancer. Momentum is building to explore such possibilities, but such exploration will require close cooperation among diverse groups of professionals, both in the scientific and lay communities. It is intended that forums such as the Annapolis NCI Workshop will act as catalysts to advance progress in this area of research.