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CELL SIGNALLING AND CANCER TREATMENT

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European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer
(Pharmacokinetics and Metabolism Group)
British Association for Cancer Research

December 5-9, 1993
El San Juan Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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Summary
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Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster presentation.

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Alan N. Houghton / New York, NY
Albert F. LoBuglio / Birmingham, AL
Ira Pastan / Bethesda, MD
David A. Scheinberg / New York, NY

Genetically Engineered Antibodies
Stephen D. Gillies / Lexington, MA
Jeffrey Schlim / Bethesda, MD
Richard P. Junghans / Boston, MA
Sherie L. Morrison / Los Angeles, CA
Clive Woodhouse / Mountain View, CA

Gene Therapy of Cancer
James J. Mulé / Palo Alto, CA
Drew M. Pardoll / Baltimore, MD
David T. Curiel / Chapel Hill, NC
Patrick Hwu / Bethesda, MD
Elizabeth Jaffee / Baltimore, MD

Cytokines in Tumor Therapy
Steven Gillis / Seattle, WA
Roland Mertelsmann / Freiburg, Germany
Ronald Levy / Stanford, CA
Terry Strom / Boston, MA

Tumor Antigens Recognized by T-Cells
Oliver J. Finn / Pittsburgh, PA
Per A. Peterson / La Jolla, CA
Martin A. Cheever / Seattle, WA
Michael T. Lotze / Pittsburgh, PA

Antibodies as Immunogens
Soldano Ferrone / Valhalla, NY
Dorothée Herlyn / Philadelphia, PA
Kenneth Foon / Lexington, KY
Alan N. Houghton / New York, NY

Future of Cancer Immunotherapy
Isaiah J. Fidler / Houston, TX
Paul M. Sondel / Madison, WI
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INTERACTIONS OF CANCER SUSCEPTIBILITY GENES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CARCINOGENS

Joint Meeting Organized by the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)

November 9-13, 1993
Lyon, France

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Introductory Lectures
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Lorenzo Tomatis / Lyon, France
Lee W. Wattenberg / Minneapolis, USA
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Genetic Instability
Kari K. Alitalo / Helsinki, Finland
T. Heidmann / Paris, France
Thea D. Tlsty / Chapel Hill, USA

Experimental Models of Genetic Susceptibility
J. Carl Barrett / Research Triangle Park, USA
Henry C. Pitot / Madison, USA
Bernard M. Mecheri / Heidelberg, Germany

DNA Damage and Repair
Dirk Bootsma / Rotterdam, The Netherlands
John M. Essigmann / Cambridge, USA
Mutsuo Sekiguchi / Fukuoka, Japan

Mechanisms of Transgenerational Carcinogenesis
Carmen Sapienza / La Jolla, USA
Ulrike Wintersberger / Vienna, Austria
David Malkin / Toronto, Canada
Christopher J. Kemp / Glasgow, Scotland

Human Cancers
Frederick P. Li / Boston, USA
Valerie Beral / Oxford, England
Bruce A. J. Ponder / Cambridge, England
Neil E. Caporaso / Bethesda, USA
Gilbert M. Lenoir / Lyon, France

Markers of Individual Exposure
Ruggero Montesano / Lyon, France
Peter A. Cerutti / Epalinges, Switzerland

Opportunities for Prevention
I. Bernard Weinstein / New York, USA

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We are pleased to present on the cover of this issue of Cancer Research the four winners of the three 1993 General Motors Cancer Research Awards, two of whom, Drs. Gianni Bonadonna (upper left) and Bernard Fisher (lower left), were coreipients of the Charles F. Kettering Prize. Considering the importance of their contributions, it is not surprising that the two were also coreipients of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Awards for 1993. Because of an unexpected problem in scheduling, Dr. Bonadonna was only mentioned briefly as a coawardee of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Prize in the cover legend to the May 15, 1993 issue of the journal, which featured Bernard Fisher. However, Dr. Bonadonna was recognized earlier in our April 1, 1992 issue as an American Cancer Society Medal of Honor awardee for 1991 and the recipient of the Rosenthal Award of the AACR in November 1982.

Working on opposite sides of the Atlantic, Drs. Bonadonna and Fisher both made their major contributions to the alleviation of much of the suffering, disfigurement, and emotional stress of radical mastectomy in human breast cancer. Dr. Bonadonna contributed benchmark developments in combination chemotherapy, now widely applied throughout the world. His first combination, CMF (cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and 5-fluorouracil), demonstrated significantly longer survival rates of breast cancer over surgery alone. Improved combinations, such as ABVD (Adriamycin, bleomycin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine), were more effective in MOPP (mechlorethamine, Oncovin, procarbazine, and prednisolone)-resistant Hodgkin’s disease. He has also shown more recently (J. Clin. Oncol., 7: 1380–1397, 1989; J. Natl. Cancer Inst., 82: 1539–1545, 1990) that primary (preventive) chemotherapy can be effective for conservative surgery in women who would otherwise be candidates for mastectomy.

After graduation from the Milan School of Medicine in 1959 and postdoctoral experience at Sloan-Kettering, Dr. Bonadonna returned to the Milan Tumor Institute, where he now is Director of the Division of Medical Oncology. As mentioned previously, he received the Rosenthal Award from the AACR in 1982.

Dr. Fisher, Distinguished Service Professor of the University of Pittsburgh and chairman of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, shares the 1993 Kettering Prize for a brilliant career, which showed that breast cancer can be treatable with minimal surgery. He also contributed to the justification and popularity of adjuvant chemotherapy with minimal surgery, which has now become a key part of breast cancer treatment (Cancer Research cover legend, May 15, 1993). His accomplishments have greatly minimized the physical and emotional trauma of the patient subjected to radical mastectomy. Dr. Fisher is now involved in a project entailing a massive tamoxifen prevention trial for breast cancer, which is under way in several hundred centers in the United States and Canada.

Carlo M. Croce, M.D., (upper right), Director of the Jefferson Cancer Institute and of the Jefferson Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA, is receiving the Charles S. Mott prize for outstanding achievements in unraveling the molecular mechanisms involved in the malignant transformation of cells of the immune system. In 20 years of research at the Wistar Institute and now as Director of the Jefferson Cancer Institute of the Thomas Jefferson Medical College, he has identified several key chromosomal rearrangements leading to the activation of oncoproteins responsible for leukemia and lymphoma. He has deciphered the molecular mechanisms of a number of chromosomal translocations leading to Burkitt’s lymphoma, follicular lymphoma, mantle cell lymphoma, and acute lymphocytic leukemia. In addition, Dr. Croce has shown the involvement of the genes for the T-cell receptors in the rearrangements in T-cell neoplasms. Among his impressive list of accomplishments in molecular genetics are the translocation of the c-myc oncoprotein triggering Burkitt’s lymphoma and the discovery of the bcl-1 and bcl-2 oncoproteins involved in certain low-grade leukemias and lymphomas. These probes for two oncoproteins are used for the diagnosing and monitoring of these neoplasms.

For his critical contributions to the molecular genetics of human cancer, he was awarded an Outstanding Investigatorship of the NIH in 1985, and this has been renewed in the amount of $15 million for the next 7 years. He lives in center city Philadelphia with his 13-year-old son and is a collector of art of Italian masters. Among his many outside activities, Dr. Croce is Editor-in-Chief of Cancer Research.

Hidesaburo Hanafusa, Ph.D. (lower right), of The Rockefeller University, New York, is being awarded the Alfred P. Sloan Prize for the discovery of the singular role of damaged cellular oncoproteins in cancer. He discovered and characterized the crk oncogene from a tumor-causing chicken virus. The protein encoded by this oncogene has two molecular structures, SH-2 and SH-3, which are responsible for its oncogenic activity and are also products of many human oncoproteins. These proteins are involved in signal transduction, responsible for proper cell regulation. Dr. Hanafusa made the revolutionary discovery that the Rous virus, when stripped of its src oncogene, could still maintain its malignant property by purloining the infected cells’ own src oncogene. This extraordinary discovery conclusively demonstrated that oncoproteins occur generally as normal components of mammalian cells until switched on to malignancy and are not confined to an infecting virus. As stated by Peter Vogt, the 1991 Mott Prize winner, “This early discovery by Dr. Hanafusa was a quantum leap for cancer research.”

A recipient of the Clowes Award from the AACR in 1986, Dr. Hanafusa resides in New York City with his wife, Teruko Inoue, a senior research associate at The Rockefeller University.

We are grateful to Molino & Associates, Inc., for the photograph and much of the information presented in this legend.

Sidney Weinhouse