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Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the National Cancer Act:
Progress and Promise

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Telomerase Detection

The wait is over!

Oncor introduces the TRAP-eze™ Telomerase Detection Kit, the world's first commercially-available product for the detection of telomerase activity in vitro. Telomerase expression generally appears to be stringently repressed in normal human somatic cells, but reactivated in most cancer and immortalized cells. Using TRAP-eze™, telomerase expression can now be rapidly and accurately assayed in cells or tissue specimens.

TRAP-eze™ is an advanced version of the Telomeric Repeat Amplification Protocol (TRAP). In the TRAP assay, active telomerase (present in cell or tissue extracts) adds telomeric repeat DNA onto a substrate oligonucleotide, and the extended product is amplified by the polymerase chain reaction*.

The reaction products are then rapidly analyzed on a polyacrylamide gel: samples containing telomerase activity show the signature DNA laddering pattern shown above, whereas negatives do not.

TRAP-eze™ kit advancements include improved primer design which simplifies the technique and improves reliability, and a convenient, built-in internal PCR control that facilitates quantitative interpretation of the data. Most importantly, TRAP-eze™ is the most sensitive method of telomerase detection available, maximizing reaction yield from precious, small samples and permitting the detection of telomerase in mixed cell populations.

The wait is over – contact Oncor today for more information on this exciting breakthrough product!
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH PRESENTS

An Important Educational Opportunity Primarily for Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellows Contemplating Careers in Basic Cancer Research

HISTOPATHOBIOLOGY OF NEOPLASIA

The Edward A. Smuckler Memorial Workshop
Supported by a Generous Grant from the National Cancer Institute

Keystone Conference Center
Keystone, Colorado
July 21 - July 28, 1996

- Intensive training in the histopathology and biology of neoplasia.
- Twenty-eight hours of hands-on laboratory exercises directed by distinguished pathologists.
- An outstanding series of lectures on rapidly developing areas of cancer research by laboratory directors and other prominent investigators.
- Extensive written course materials that will serve as valuable references in the future.
- Waiver of registration fee and partial support for students’ and fellows’ lodging and subsistence expenses during the workshop.

LABORATORY AND LECTURING FACULTY

Helen D. Feiner*, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY **Course Director**
Stephen Baird, Veterans Administration Medical Center, San Diego, CA
Edward Bresnick, University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, MA
Arthur R. Brothman, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
Betty DeMasters, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, CO
Isaiah J. Fidler, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Michael B. Kastan, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore, MD
Mary-Claire King, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
John H. Lehman, Albany College of Medicine, Albany, NY

Michael W. Lieberman, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Reuben Lotan, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Robert Low*, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, CO
Gary J. Miller*, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, CO
Harold L. Moses, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN
Karl Munger, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
Stewart Sell, University of Texas Medical School, Houston, TX
Patricia A. Thomas, University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, Iowa City, IA
Ann D. Thor, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
Frederic M. Waldman*, University of California, San Francisco, CA

*Member of the Workshop Executive Committee

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 1996

Further Information: American Association for Cancer Research • Public Ledger Building
150 S. Independence Mall West • Suite 816 • Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483
Telephone: (215) 440-9300 • FAX: (215) 440-9313 • E-mail: AACR@aol.com
ORIGINS OF BREAST AND PROSTATE CANCER
Special Conference Sponsored by
The General Motors Cancer Research Foundation
June 19 & 20, 1996
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

June 19, 1996: Breast Cancer

June 20, 1996: Prostate Cancer
Geographic Variations in Prostate Cancer and the Effect of Migration—Laurence N. Kolonel, M.D., Ph.D.; Endogenous Hormones in Adulthood and Prostate Cancer Risk—Meir Stampfer, M.D.; Diet and Other Extrinsic Factors Influencing Prostate Cancer Risk—Edward Giovannucci, M.D., Sc.D.; Genetics of Prostate Cancer—Francis Collins, M.D.; Apoptosis and Tumor Invasion in Prostate Cancer—Martin Tenniswood, Ph.D.; Mechanism of Metastases of Prostate Cancer—Timothy Thompson, Ph.D., Prostate Cancer: Summary and Interpretation of Conference—Philip W. Kantoff, M.D.

1:30 P.M.—Lectures by the 1996 Prizewinners of the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation Awards

CARCINOGENESIS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION: ASSESSMENT OF HUMAN RISK AND STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTION

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

With the Collaboration of the Hungarian Cancer Society

October 6-9, 1996
Hotel Gellért
Budapest, Hungary

CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSONS
Frederica Perera / New York, USA
Paul Kleihues / Lyon, France

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Hans-Olov Adami / Uppsala, Sweden
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Margaret L. Kripke / Houston, USA
Kenneth Olden / Research Triangle Park, USA
Álan Pintér / Budapest, Hungary
Manfred F. Rajewsky / Essen, Germany
David Zarets / Moscow, Russia

Keynote Address
Curtis C. Harris / Bethesda, USA

Cancer Incidence and Etiology
Witold A. Zatoński / Warsaw, Poland
Frederica Perera / New York, USA
J. Carl Barrett / Research Triangle Park, USA
Helmut Bartsch / Heidelberg, Germany

Air, Water, Food, and Soil Contamination
Radim J. Šrám / Prague, Czech Republic
Joellen Lewtas / Research Triangle Park, USA
Wieslaw Jedrychowski / Cracow, Poland
Olav Axelson / Linköping, Sweden

Ambient, Environmental, and Occupation Exposure and Cancer Risk
Mieczysław R. Chorząży / Gliwice, Poland
Álan Pintér / Budapest, Hungary
Kimmo Peltonen / Helsinki, Finland
Monica C. Hollstein / Heidelberg, Germany
Kari Hemminäki / Stockholm, Sweden

Tobacco
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Krystyna Frenkel / New York, USA
Bernadette Schoket / Budapest, Hungary

Strategies for Prevention
Waun Ki Hong / Houston, USA
I. Bernard Weinstein / New York, USA
Anna Tompa / Budapest, Hungary

Roundtable Discussion
Paul Kleihues / Lyon, France
Hans-Olov Adami / Uppsala, Sweden
Paolo Boffetta / Lyon, France
Edward Bresnick / Worcester, USA
Andrew E. Czeizel / Budapest, Hungary
Terri Damstra / Research Triangle Park, USA
Edith Olah / Budapest, Hungary
Kenneth Olden / Research Triangle Park, USA
Manfred F. Rajewsky / Essen, Germany
William A. Suk / Research Triangle Park, USA
David Zarets / Moscow, Russia

Applicants are encouraged to submit abstracts for poster presentation.

Information and Application Forms
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Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483
(215) 440-9300 (215) 440-9313 (FAX)
Email: aacr@aol.com
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Department of Urology

Multidisciplinary Prostate Cancer Research Program

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is launching a major new integrated multidisciplinary program in Prostate Cancer Research in conjunction with the Departments of Urology, Cell Biology, and Genitourinary Medical Oncology. Ample resources of dedicated laboratory space and research personnel and a substantial financial base are being secured for this program. We are seeking scientists for faculty positions to add to our critical contingent of researchers interested in the biology and therapy of human prostate cancer.

- A position at the Professor level for a senior scientist with a record of outstanding achievement in research, extramural funding, administration, and graduate training;

- Two positions at the Assistant or Associate Professor level for scientists with exceptional accomplishments in cancer biology (systemic, cellular, molecular, and biochemical).

Candidates should have a Ph.D. or an M.D. degree with a track record of research in molecular biology and interest in the study of prostate cancer. Applicants should send curriculum vitae, a 1–2 page summary of research activities, and the names of three references to:

Andrew C. von Eschenbach, M.D.
Director of the Prostate Cancer Research Program
Chairman, Department of Urology, Box 110
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
1515 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

The University of Texas is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages minorities and women to apply. Smoke-free environment.

MAYO CLINIC
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ONCOLOGY
AND MAYO CANCER CENTER
Clinical Research Positions

The Division of Medical Oncology and the NCI-designated Mayo Cancer Center in Rochester, Minnesota, invite applications for two clinical research positions. Clinical investigators with established cancer research programs are encouraged to apply. The Mayo Clinic provides an outstanding environment for investigators interested in conducting translational research with the goal of improving prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. Interested applicants should submit a statement of research interests, curriculum vitae, bibliography, and list of references to:

James N. Ingle, M.D.
Associate Director for Clinical Research
Mayo Cancer Center
Mayo Clinic
200 First Street, SW
Rochester, MN 55905

Mayo Foundation is an affirmative action and equal opportunity educator and employer.

Texas Tech University
Health Sciences Center

A Post-Doctoral Position is available immediately to study drug resistance and cancer. Candidate should have a Ph.D. or M.D. degree with background in drug resistance and molecular biology. Good salary, excellent working environment. Send curriculum vitae to:

Maria Claudia Mallarino, M.D.
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Oncology Division
Department of Internal Medicine
3601 4th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79430

Phone: (806) 743-3155; Fax: (806) 743-3148

The University of Texas is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages minorities and women to apply. Smoke-free environment.
With the stroke of a pen 25 years ago—December 23, 1971—President Richard Nixon signed into law legislation that would give new hope to millions of American men, women, and children. The “National Cancer Act of 1971” recommitted the nation to making the eradication of cancer a national priority.

This landmark legislation fostered extraordinary basic science, training opportunities, and rapid translation of research progress into clinical practice. It unraveled the fundamental knowledge necessary to advance cancer prevention and gave birth to the biotechnology industry. It authorized the first cancer centers, established cancer control programs, and created programs to disseminate scientific information about cancer. It led to basic science advances that have provided insights into many chronic diseases of humankind in addition to cancer. Cornerstones of the National Cancer Program such as the National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB), the President’s Cancer Panel, and the special authorities of the Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) were first conceptualized under the National Cancer Act of 1971.

Many individuals were responsible for the passage of the National Cancer Act. Pictured on the cover are Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA) (top right), Senator Ralph Yarborough (D-TX) (bottom center), Congressman Paul Rogers (D-FL) (top left), Chairman of the Yarborough Commission Benno C. Schmidt (bottom right), and philanthropist and medical research advocate Mary Woodard Lasker (bottom left). We are indebted to these individuals and to all who have contributed to the success of the National Cancer Program.

Since 1971, the annual federal appropriation for the NCI has increased from $200 million to more than $2.25 billion in 1996. With this level of funding, we have achieved unparalleled research success and made tremendous investments in the nation’s health and in hope for the millions of Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. Approximately 40% of Americans will develop cancer and one out of 4 Americans will die from cancer. By the turn of the century, cancer will be the leading cause of death in the United States and will be responsible for over 6 million years of productive life prematurely lost each year.

Our research opportunities have never been greater; our national debt has never been more daunting. Over the next five to seven years, our nation’s leaders will be reconsidering our national priorities and reconfiguring economic investments made with taxpayers’ dollars. The cancer research community must be strong and unanimous in working to ensure that economic impediments and concerns do not cripple our research progress and hinder our national capacity to explore new research frontiers. Our mandate for the next decade is to sustain the investment in cancer research opportunities which offer great promise. This investment will accelerate our progress against cancer by developing capabilities which will address all cancers.

The legacy of the National Cancer Act and its success to date pose a challenge for every member of the cancer research community. Each of us must be involved in working with the public and with policymakers to communicate our research progress and the success of our discovery process, to identify what support is necessary to maintain a vital research program, and to push the frontiers of research to eradicate all cancers.

As we accept this challenge, let us renew our vision for cancer research. In the words of Mary Woodard Lasker, “...the fruits of our labors throughout the years will: alleviate pain where there is suffering; provide the freedom to live in health so that we can fulfill our promise and quest in the pursuit of happiness; and provide hope where none existed before.”

Joseph R. Bertino
President, AACR