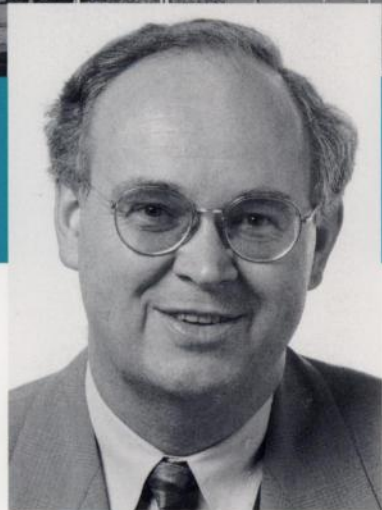




Cancer Research

AN OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH



July 15, 1995
Volume 55 • Number 14
PP. 2959-3221
ISSN 0008-5472 • CNREA 8

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Cancer: The Interface Between Basic and Applied Research



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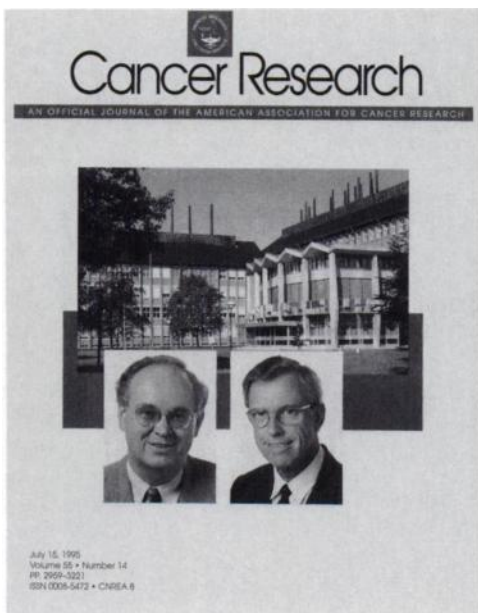
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Application Deadline: August 14, 1995

Information and Application Forms:

American Association for Cancer Research
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COVER LEGEND



The Netherlands has had a long tradition of research in public health and disease prevention. A number of key individuals from the Netherlands scientific community, such as Otto Mühlbock, have been leaders in the International Union Against Cancer. The cover of this issue features the Netherlands National Institute of Public Health and Environmental Protection [Rijks Instituut voor de Volksgezondheid en Milieu Hygiene (RIVM)]; Robert Kroes (*right*), its Deputy Director General since 1983; and Daan Kromhout (*left*), Director of Public Health Research for the Institute. Located in Bilthoven, this research center is particularly important because it coordinates European efforts under the European Economic Community in regard to health research and environmental protection, with emphasis on risk reduction of several prevalent types of cancer.

Dr. Kroes started his career at the RIVM in 1964 as Head of the Department of Experimental Oncology. His main interests were experimental carcinogenesis, experimental pathology, and toxicology. From 1977 until 1983, he directed the TNO Institute for Nutrition and Toxicology, where he conducted a research program on diet and cancer in experimental animals. He also developed a model for prostatic cancer (*Cancer Lett.*, 18: 69, 1983; *Prostate*, 20: 339, 1992) and studied dietary modulations in prostate, mammary, and intestinal cancer models in rats and in a lung cancer model in hamsters (*Fed. Proc.*, 45: 136, 1986). At the same time, a nutritional epidemiology unit was established, which started a comprehensive prospective cohort study on diet and cancer. In the 1980s, Dr. Kroes was heavily involved in the development of a risk assessment system for carcinogens in the Netherlands, which, with some minor modifications, is used currently in Europe (*Arch. Toxicol.*, 60: 224, 1986; *Food Chem. Toxicol.*, 28: 789, 1990; *Food Addit. Contam.*, 10: 269, 1983).

Drs. Kroes and Kromhout played a prominent role in expanding research on diet and cancer in the Netherlands. They were active members of the Committee on Nutrition and Cancer of the Netherlands Nutrition Council chaired by Dr. Kroes. The Committee's guidelines for prevention of cancer, formulated in a 1986 report, became a salient part of the Guidelines for a Healthy Diet, presented by the Netherlands Nutrition Council in 1988.

Dr. Kromhout investigated the epidemiology of diet and cancer in the Zutphen Study, the Dutch contribution to the Seven Countries Study. He reported an inverse relation between Vitamin C intake and lung cancer, independent of cigarette smoking. He found that the association with fruit consumption, however, was stronger than that with Vitamin C alone and that other substances in fruits might decrease the risk of lung cancer (*Am. J. Clin. Nutr.*, 45: 1361, 1987; *Am. J. Epid.*, 138: 840, 1993). Because similar evidence for a preventive action of vegetables and fruits in other types of cancer was known, Dr. Kromhout developed, after consultation with Lee Wattenberg of the University of Minnesota, a research program on nonnutritive substances and chronic disease prevention. In this context, the role of flavonoids is currently being investigated (*Nutr. Cancer*, 20: 21, 1993).

Dr. Kroes was trained in veterinary sciences at the University of Utrecht. He received a D.V.M. in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1970. He was appointed Professor at the University of Utrecht in 1988. In 1970–1971, he was awarded an International Agency for Research on Cancer fellowship, during which he did research at the Experimental Pathology Branch of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD, studying the early appearance of α -fetoproteins in the early stages of rat liver carcinogenesis [*Nature (Lond.)*, 240: 240, 1972]. Dr. Kroes will retire from his position at the RIVM on December 30, 1995, and will expand his activities as Professor at the University of Utrecht, where he will assume the directorship of the Research Institute of Toxicology, an interfaculty institute at the University.

Dr. Kromhout earned a Ph.D. in Human Nutrition in 1978 at the Agricultural University in Wageningen. In 1980, he held a visiting fellowship for training in epidemiology from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, earning an M.P.H. at the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene of the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, in 1981. In 1984, he was appointed Professor of Nutrition at the University of Leiden. Dr. Kromhout was recruited by Dr. Kroes to join the RIVM in 1988 to strengthen the Department of Epidemiology and to expand research on cancer, cardiovascular disease, infectious disease, and environmental epidemiology. In 1991, Dr. Kromhout was appointed to his current position of Director of the Division of Public Health Research.

We are indebted to those featured for the information and photographs for this cover.

John H. Weisburger