THE CANCER NEWSLETTER

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Schmidt And His Panel Tell The President What's Wrong With The Cancer Program: No Training Grants, NIH Cuts

The twin issues of reviving the NIH research training grant program and budgeting more money for the "have not" institutes at NIH (those other than NCI and Heart & Lung) are squarely up to President Nixon. Members of the President's Cancer Panel came away from their face-to-face meeting with Nixon last week hopeful that he would reverse the policy of his Administration over the last two years on those points.

Similar efforts by Panel Chairman Benno Schmidt and members Lee Clark and Ray Owen have for the most part been wasted on Office of Management & Budget executives and HEW brass. But this time the Panel, appointed by the President, to tell him about problems impeding cancer research, told him.

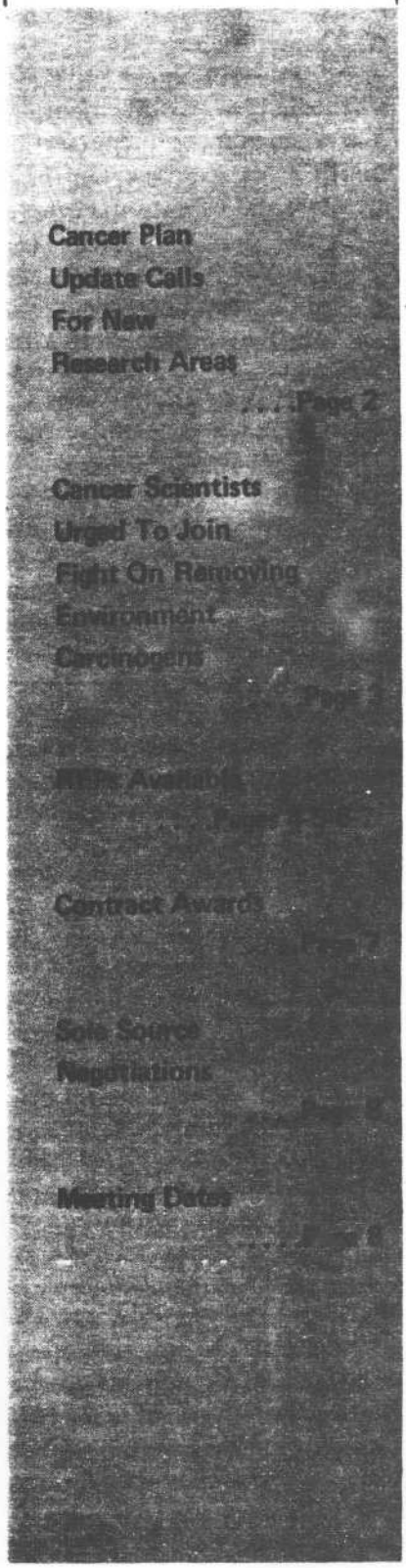
One report of the conversation, which Schmidt refused to either con-

(Continued to page 8)

IN BRIEF

Academic Research Contract Phaseout, Switch To Program Grants, Will Affect $20-30 Million, Require 3-4 Years

RESEARCH CONTRACTS presently in effect at academic institutions will be phased out and recompeted over the next three to four years as NCI implements its decision to switch them to program grants. The system will provide the investigator with a large degree of flexibility within the workscope of the program, NCI Director Rauscher told the President's Cancer Panel. They will undergo the Div. of Research Grants review process, by multidisciplinary study sections which will assign priority rankings. From $20 to $30 million in contracts will be affected. Straight procurement contracts will not be affected; neither will research contracts with commerical firms, since they are not permitted by law to receive grants. . . .**"WEINBERGER FELLOWSHIP"** applications, which must be reviewed by study sections, are hung up in the Div. of Research Grants because of the workload on study sections. NIH has $30 million to spend on the fellowhips in fiscal 1974, $4 million of which has been allotted to NCI. Funds not committed by June 30 could be lost. Cancer Panel Chairman Benno Schmidt said opponents of biomedical training efforts would jump on that as proof that the program is not needed. "There won't be a lick of sympathy for administrative hangups," Schmidt said. . . .**NCI** receives 16-18,000 inquiries a year from physicians, patients and family members of patients seeking information on latest and best treatment regimens. NIH has a full-time MD on duty to help answer such questions. . . .**CHARLOTTE FRIEND**, elected vice president of the American Assn. for Cancer Research at the organization's recent annual meeting, will not be AACR's first woman president when she succeeds the current president, Van R. Potter, next year. That honor went to Thelma Dunn of NCI in 1961. . . .



National Cancer Plan Update Includes New Research Project Areas, Reflects Progress

Updating of the National Cancer Plan set in motion earlier this year has resulted in identification of major deficiencies in the scientific content of parts of the plan and revisions to reflect technical progress and scientific knowledge gained since the original plan was developed more than two years ago.

The updating conference included many of the original planners, divided into working groups corresponding to the seven research objectives of the plan plus an eighth group to assist with development of a plan for cancer control, which was not in existence when the plan was first drafted.

Revisions recommended by objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1—"Develop the means to reduce the effectiveness of external agents for producing cancer."

—The recent discovery of human cell lines that can be mutated by chemicals opens the way for development of human cell bioassay models for chemical carcinogens and mutagens.

—Identify and characterize kinds of physical materials with carcinogenic properties, based on information available for asbestos. Routes other than inhalation need to be explored using animal systems to test for mutagenic and long-term carcinogenic activity.

OBJECTIVE 2—"Develop the means to modify body mechanisms so as to minimize the hazards of cancer-inducing agents."

—The working group defined a new project area for research to test whether known human viruses are involved in human cancer and to develop vaccines against those implicated. "The probability of successful achievement in this field is rated high, since molecular hybridization technology and vaccine development are well established fields," the group report said.

—Eleven new project areas were defined under the approach for altering the metabolism of individuals to reduce the rate of cancer development—identification of pathogenetic host factors using animal models, development of methods to reverse the process of malignant transformation following interaction of chemicals with critical target sites in cells, and the study of metabolic, nutritional, enzymatic and other characteristics of the host that control the induction and development of tumors.

OBJECTIVE 3—"Develop the means to prevent transformation of normal cells to cells capable of forming cancers."

—New project areas were recommended to develop techniques for preparation of large numbers of precancerous and normal (precursor) cells in vivo and in vitro; to develop new biophysical and biochemical procedures for characterization of events in the precancerous state; to relate incidence and growth of tumors to deficiency or augmentation of humoral or cellular elements of the immune response; to identify the role of various cell types of the effector arm of the immune system in tumor immunity; and to elucidate the genetic and immunological circumstances in which the allogenic reaction or other forms of immune stimulation leads to production of formerly latent viruses and raises the incidence of malignancy.

OBJECTIVE 4—"Develop the means to prevent progression of precancerous cells to cancers and the development of cancers from precancerous conditions."

—Improvement in techniques that permit examination of human tumors in vitro generated excitement over the possibility of detecting tumors in situ, for example carcinoembryonic antigens in the colon.

—One new research project was prepared, for trapping tumor-associated antigenic components into proteins of viruses which can be injected into humans for immunotherapeutic purposes.

OBJECTIVE 5—"Develop the means to achieve an accurate assessment of (a) the risk of developing cancer in groups and in individuals and (b) the presence, extent and probable course of existing cancers."

—Two new population based efforts were recommended, one for the development of blood and serum banks for the study of immunological and biochemical factors in cancer, and the other for the study of animal population groups as possible anologies to cancer in human populations.

—Development of assays for non-specific cellular host responses and expanded capabilities for humoral and cellular diagnostic techniques.

OBJECTIVE 6—"Develop the means to cure cancers and to retard the progress of cancers not cured."

—Approaches were revised to emphasize each treatment modality and ensure a balanced research effort among the various approaches. Detailed consideration was given to research areas of radiotherapy, surgical oncology, endocrine-related and nutritional aspects of cancer therapy, and a new category under host biology on vascular support, coagulation, and fibrinolysis concepts.

OBJECTIVE 7—"Develop the means to improve the rehabilitation of cancer patients."

—With so little cancer rehabilitation research having been done in the past, the group recommended a major new project area in assessment of the morbidity of cancer to determine and quantify disease effects amenable to rehabilitation."

CANCER CONTROL—The following recommendations were made to guide implementation and management of the Cancer Control Program:

—It should develop an appropriate balanced effort embracing projects in the prevention of cancer, screening and detection, diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation and continuing care.

—It should support the identification, field testing,

and evaluation of new methods and techniques for cancer control in limited community settings to establish their practicality (including cost effectiveness and acceptability among both health professionals and the public) before undertaking costly, widescale demonstration and promotion efforts.

–Model cancer control systems of comprehensive community based cancer services should be supported in order to reduce the fragmentation and unnecessary duplication of cancer services.

–Additional cancer control personnel should be trained at the national, state, and especially regional and local levels, and placed in situations where they can effectively mobilize and coordinate local and regional cancer control resources to reduce cancer incidence, morbidity and mortality.

Publication: *Summary Report Of The Chairman–Cancer Program Planning Conference.* Write to Office of Cancer Communications, NCI, Bethesda, Md. 20014

Battle With Regulatory Agencies Over Environmental Carcinogens Needs Help From Science, Panelists Say

Cancer scientists must take the lead in efforts to reduce the dangers of environmental carcinogens through government intervention if those efforts are to have any chance for success, members of the American Assn. for Cancer Research were told at a symposium on environmental determinants of human cancer.

Samuel S. Epstein, Case Western pharmacologist and chairman of the symposium, said "It is the clear responsibility of our professional association to expose the unscientific nature of the industrial mythology on carcinogenesis typified in the Aldrin/Dieldrin hearings. Public interest groups and embattled agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, cannot be expected to unaidedly bear this onerous burden of protecting the public health.

"Decisions on the use of carcinogenic chemicals in consumer products and in the workplace must be made in the open political arena on the basis of economically unconstrained and expert advice," Epstein insisted.

Epstein criticized current toxicological techniques for testing chemicals for carcinogenicity as "relatively insensitive and limited" due to their "simplistic nature." These approaches are generally based on the testing of single agents in isolation from other chemicals to which human populations are concurrently exposed, Epstein pointed out. "Thus, the potential for a wide range of interactions between two carcinogens, such as Dieldrin and DDT, or between a carcinogen and a non-carcinogenic promoting agent which may markedly enhance or synergize carcinogenicity, is not reflected in standard toxicological practice."

Anita Johnson, attorney for the Ralph Nader-supported Health Research Group, backed up Epstein's plea for greater involvement of the scientific community in the regulatory process.

"Scientists have for too long ignored the cancer prevention powers of the federal regulatory agencies," Johnson. said. Citing references that as many as 90% of cancer cases are caused by environmental factors, she charged that the Food & Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Dept. of Labor and others with authority to identify carcinogenic chemicals and limit human exposure to them "are performing poorly, and will continue to do so, unless independent cancer scientists make their voices heard in government decision making."

Because of opposition by business interests to regulatory action against carcinogenic chemicals, their removal is frequently blocked or delayed, Johnson said. "While enormous monies are poured into cancer research, action for cancer prevention is denied." Johnson cited several cases in which FDA, EPA and the Labor Dept. have failed to act against known carcinogens or are considering permitting use of so-called "safe levels" in some products.

"The action in terms of prevention is at the regulatory agencies. Generally, it is industry which has access to these agencies, who pressures them, protests to them. Consumer groups are tiny, understaffed and badly underfinanced. Independent cancer scientists are needed to take up the politics of cancer prevention. They are a natural interest group whose prestige and ability can push the agencies toward vigilant health decisions. They are needed to follow pertinent regulatory matters in detail, week by week, as business does, to appear at, write and call the agencies, Congress, the medical writers, the journal editors, the conference organizers, the popular media, as business does from the other side.

"Up until now, the impact of the cancer scientist community on the agencies has been small. . .Many cancer scientists appear to feel that they have no obligation to the public on cancer prevention because their work is not directly involved in carcinogensis, but rather in basic research or therapy. Many cancer scientists, in common with other scientists, believe that all questions must be definitively answered be before they can speak out, or even have opinions, on policy. The public health cannot afford this luxury. Many times, decisions must be made before all the facts are in. . . .Academic scientists do not usually understand, and while industry may be arguing flatly drug 'X' does not cause cancer and should be prescribed freely, academics are hemming and hawing about comparatively rarified issues such as when a benign tumor becomes malignant.

"The public needs advocates for cancer prevention. There is no more natural, competent and concerned force for such advocacy than the academic cancer

community. It is time to stop turning the other way."

Umberto Saffiotti, NCI associate director for carcinogenesis, acknowledged limitations of bioassays in lab animals and discussed what he said was a promising new approach that could substantially shorten the time and reduce costs of screening chemicals. This approach involves a battery of short-term bioassays, including chemical reactivity, mutagenesis and neoplastic cell transformation tests as a prescreen for carcinogenesis studies.

"The rapid development of (this) approach has been one of the most exciting events in the field of carcinogenesis, because of its impact both on the bioassay problem and on the study of the mechanisms of neoplastic transformation by chemicals directly on their biological targets," Saffiotti said.

RFPs AVAILABLE

Requests for proposal described here pertain to contracts planned for award by the National Cancer Institute, unless otherwise noted. Write to the Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist for copies of the RFP. Some listings will show the phone number of the Contract Specialist, who will respond to questions about the RFP. Contract Sections for the Cause & Prevention and Biology & Diagnosis Divisions are located at: NCI, Landow Bldg, HIII, Bethesda, Md. 20014; for the Treatment and Control Divisions at NCI, Blair Bldg., 8300 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring, Md. 20910. All requests for copies of RFPs should cite the RFP number. The deadline date shown for each listing is the final day for receipt of the completed proposal unless otherwise indicated.

RFP NO1-CP-T-43314-57

Title: *Inhalation bioassay of cigarette smoke in rats*
Deadline: *May 15, 1974*

NCI wishes to have five types of cigarettes evaluated by inhalation bioassay in rats. These cigarettes, supplied by NCI, will have been evaluated separately in skin-painting bioassay and will be known to differ considerably in tumorigenicity and toxicity as measured by that criterion. They will be also of particular significance in the program to develop less-hazardous cigarettes.

The full value of the proposed work will not be realized unless experimental conditions are meticulously controlled and fully recorded. Special importance is attached to monitoring the operation of smoking machines and to dosimetry.

The contractor will be required to achieve the following objectives—practical demonstration of full capability to conduct long-term inhalation bioassays of cigarette smoke in rats; chronic exposure of five groups of 120 rats to smoke from five types of cigarette; maintenance of control animals; comprehensive pathological investigation of effects; evaluation of the potential of inhalation bioassay as a tool in the development of less-hazardous cigarettes; assessment of the relative degree of hazard of the five types of cigarettes; and recommendations for further refinement and application of the technique.

The main technical requirement is a procedure to expose rats daily over long periods so that the cumulative retained dose in the respiratory tract can be as large as is consistent with limitations such as toxic effects. The retained dose from a single cigarette or one day's exposure must be measured (either incidentally to routine exposure or in special exposure), and must be controllable and not subject to wide variation.

Conditions favoring the accomplishment of these aims are known to include—cigarettes standardized and environmentally conditioned: e.g. closely controlled length, circumference, weight, and resistance to draw; equilibrated at 75 degrees F and 60% RH; dilution of smoke (10% smoke, 90% air) to assist inhalability; exposure of rats to part only of each puff cycle and clean air for the balance, to reduce stress; resting period between cigarettes, to permit some detoxification (of nicotine especially); animal restraint which presents the snout uniformly to the smoke chamber, is tolerated but closely restrains head movement, does not expose the animal—and especially the snout—to sharp edges, etc., which may inflict trauma, is accepted with little struggling, after a short training period, for several hours of continuous restraint, provides adequate body ventilation and minimizes body fouling by urine and feces: provision for regular rotation of rat placement around all exposure ports at an exposure station, to ensure uniformity of dosing (since it is difficult to secure uniform smoke exposure at all ports); experimental animals of good quality and uniform characteristics.

Accordingly, NCI requires the present inhalation bioassays to conform to the following—smoking machine and animal restraint as developed by Oak Ridge National Laboratory; smoke dilution to about 10% smoke and 90% air; approximately one puff/min; 30 sec smoke, 30 sec air; 1 hr between cigarettes.

It is essential that the rats for this work are of high quality and uniformity, and free from intercurrent infection. Particular importance is attached to absence of pulmonary infection at the start of the experiment (and previously), and ability to maintain (or supply from his own resources) specific-pathogen-free rats, Sprague-Dawley or other approved strain, females, or reasonably uniform weight and age (range one month, maximum six months).

All animals will be examined post mortem. NCI is primarily interested in carcinoma, especially of the lungs, trachea and bronchi; in bronchitis and emphysema; and in atherosclerotic heart disease. However, these are minimum requirements, and bidders are in-

vited to propose other observations which are likely—on the basis of prior experience—to augment the value of the investigation.

Contract Specialist: Anna M. Beattie
301-496-1781
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP—43367-67

Title: *Study of the latency of herpesviruses*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

It is well known that herpesviruses can remain latent for years in humans and other animals, and then at some times escape from latency to cause cytopathology and perhaps neoplasia. The state of the herpes genome as it remains dormant in the cell is unclear. Studies on the mechanism of "integration" of herpes viruses into the host cell genome would appear to be an integral part of the nature of latency. Available evidence suggests that the biochemical mechanism of herpes "integration" may be different from other DNA tumor viruses such as SV40 or polyoma. Thus, the objective of this contract is to study (1) the types of cells in which herpes is integrated in natural disease states; (2) the mechanisms by which "integration" occurs; (3) the factors that control expression of the "integrated" genome; and (4) to develop assays which would predict whether a latent herpes virus will remain dormant or be activated to replicate lytically.

The contractor shall study the factors involved in the latency of herpesviruses in vivo. This could be in humans or in laboratory animals. Questions which might be investigated include: Is the virus integrated in the host DNA? What is the state of expression of the herpes genome in the cells in which it remains latent? Is there transcriptional control? Translational control? How often are herpes viruses induced in vivo? Does induction involve excision? What accounts for induction on culture of cells in vitro? A three year or greater effort is anticipated in the effective pursuit of this project.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43368-67

Title: *DNA and RNA interaction in cell transformation*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

There is some experimental evidence that when exogenous DNA tumor viruses are added to cells, the process of cell transformation may also involve at least partial expression of endogenous RNA tumor virus information. The objective of this contract is to provide further information about the interaction of DNA and RNA tumor viruses in the process of cell transformation. A possible system to study would be the role of partial expression of endogenous type C virus information in the transformation of mouse cells by added SV40. However, it will be left to the proposer to propose any system of DNA and RNA tumor virus interactions, with justification to be provided on why the particular system is chosen.

The contractor shall study the interaction of DNA and RNA tumor viruses in the process of cell transformation. A three year or greater effort is anticipated in the effective pursuit of this project.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43369-67

Title: *Leukemic in vitro transformation assay*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

There are good in vitro assays to measure the replication of type C RNA tumor viruses. Also the in vitro transformation of cells by sarcoma viruses is easily measured. The objective of this contract is to attempt to develop in vitro transformation assays for leukemia viruses. The correlation should also be made between infectivity as measured by a variety of cell culture infectivity assays, and in vivo oncogenicity. Also to be taken into account is the in vivo target cell whether erythroid, or lymphoid T cell or lymphoid B cell. Assays to be developed in cell culture to measure transformation may be morphological, immunological, or biochemical.

The contractor shall attempt to develop a quantitative assay for the transforming (not replicative) function of type C RNA leukemia (not sarcoma) viruses. The aim is to find a way to measure the transforming function of leukemia viruses without using animals. The assay system developed shall be tested for correlation with animal tumorigenicity. The indicator cells used can be avian or mammalian or both. The assay could involve, for example, a particular target cell with an influence on morphology or degree of differentiation of the cell or a change in some biochemical or immunological parameter.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43371-67

Title: *Study membrane changes by mammalian RNA*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

The objective of this contract is to study, biochemically and/or immunologically, membrane changes induced by a mammalian RNA tumor virus. Many bacterial systems exist in which an integrated bacteriophage produces a gene product which alters the membrane of the host bacterium. Some models for the mechanism of transformation propose that

similar changes induced by RNA tumor viruses lead to transformation. The objective of this contract is to define the biochemical or immunological changes caused by RNA tumor viruses in cell membranes. Emphasis should be on understanding the normal biochemistry of cell membranes, the changes induced by RNA tumor virus replication, and RNA tumor virus transformation. An integrated cell biological, immunological and biochemical approach is being sought in an attempt to define ultimately membrane changes that are cuased by the action of viral gene products.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43372-67

Title: *HVS virologic studies*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

Herpesvirus saimiri induces a fatal lymphoma and/or leukemia in various primates. Mortality is almost 100% even for animals inoculated as adults. Also the virus is very interesting because of analogies to EBV which has been implicated in Burkitt's lymphoma in man. Both HVS and EBV are difficult to produce. The objective of the contract is to develop better procedures for growing, concentrating, storing and purifying HVS, to use the virus for biochemical and molecular virologic studies.

The contractor shall attempt to develop better procedures for growing, concentrating, storing and purifying HVS, and use the virus and perform biochemical evaluation of the preparations. A three year or greater effort is anticipated in the effective pursuit of this project.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43373-67

Title: *Study of molecular mechanism of transformation*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

The objective of this contract is to elucidate the molecular mechanism of cell transformation. The mechanisms of transformation by DNA or RNA tumor viruses are unknown. In contrast many aspects of the replication of tumor viruses have been elucidated. The objective of this contract is the development of an in vitro assay for a viral transforming gene product. Biochemical and immunological analysis of in vitro model systems should be emphasized. Investigators may use available viral mutants in the maintenance of transformation or develop new classes of transformation (as opposed to replication) mutants to work with. Model systems, not directly involving viruses, may also be developed as background to application to viral induced transformation. The contractor shall ultimately be concerned with how the assays proposed will allow purification of a gene product responsible for transformation.

The contractor shall present a new unique idea towards elucidating the molecular mechanism of cell transformation. A three year or greater effort is anticipated in the effective pursuit of this project

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP NCI-CP-VO-43374-67

Title: *Study of feline synctial forming virus in relationship to feline leukemia*
Deadline: *May 7, 1974*

Feline synctial forming virus can often be isolated from degenerating cell lines established from feline lymphosarcoma tissue. The objective of this contract is to provide information as to the possible role of feline synctial forming virus in feline leukemia.

The contractor shall devise and carry out experiments to elucidate the role of feline synctial forming virus in feline leukemia. A three year or greater effort is anticipated in the effective pursuit of this project.

Contract Specialist: Jacque M. Labovitz
301-496-6496
Cause & Prevention

RFP-CO-45416-03

Title: *Cancer public information publication*
Deadline: *April 23, 1974*

The Office of Cancer Communication of NCI is seeking proposals for production of a publication that will be used to answer inquiries from the general public. It will be a single comprehensive publication with an up-to-date editorial and visual approach. Component parts of this publication must be capable of distribution in a variety of integrated combinations to meet correspondents' needs and must lend themselves to easy revision after an annual review.

The contractor will be responsible for the total editorial copy; camera ready art, including photographs and graphic design; layout, mechanical pasteup, and proofreading of this new publication. Composition, printing and mail distribution will be done by the government, but the contractor will be expected to have a representative present during any color printing.

Accurate information about all aspects of cancer must be presented in a non-technical manner, easily grasped by the lay public, and taking into consideration that many recipients of the publication will have cancer or be closely related to persons with cancer.

Current NCI publications and advice and consultation from NCI will be available to the contractor. He will

be expected to do any supplementary research necessary. An imaginative format is important. Data must be given the greatest possible visual reinforcement.

Contract Specialist: Donald Broome
301-427-7984
Cancer Control

RFP NCI-CM-74-55

Title: *Phase II and phase III studies in patients with disseminated solid tumors*

Deadline: *May 20, 1974*

(This was previously synopsized Nov. 29, 1973, under a sources sought title. Since then, changes in the scope of work and evaluation criteria have been made. The RFP is available to all interested prospective contractors)

The contractor will conduct phase II and phase III studies in patients with the disseminated solid tumors such as large bowel cancer, bronchogenic carcinoma, malignant melanoma, carcinoma of the cervix, endometrial carcinoma, head and neck carcinoma, or soft tissue and bone sarcoma.

A minimum total of 400 patients, representative of all or some tumor types previously defined, shall be required, with no less than 25 patients for any one tumor type. Protocols to be developed for these patients will include:

–Phase II testing of new investigational drugs.

–Phase II testing of standard antitumor drugs not previously tested against the particular tumor type.

–Phase III trials to determine the definitive activity of the above kinds of regimens.

Protocols will be developed by the investigators in concert with the project officer and may also include combined modality approaches in which chemotherapy is combined with either surgery, radiotherapy, or immunotherapy.

Contract Specialist: Michael M. Del-Colle
301-427-7466
Cancer Treatment

The following three RFPs are available from the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Md. 20852, Room 3-44, Attn: L.A. Sanders, contracting officer.

RFP CDC-99-OSF-128 (4)

Title: *Environmental/industrial hygiene surveys of vinyl chloride monomer manufacturing operations and operations where polyvinyl chloride and copolymers of polyvinyl chloride are processed*

Deadline: *May 10, 1974*

The contractor will document past and present worker exposures to vinyl chloride during the monomer production and processing of polyvinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride copolymers. Information on work practices, environmental control procedures, industrial hygiene practices and worker exposures to other known liver toxins also will be documented.

RFP CDC-99-OSH-125 (4)

Title: *Complete testing of the NIOSH method for the determination of trace metals by atomic absorption spectrophotometry*

Deadline: *May 10, 1974*

The contractor will perform tests designed to determine the overall accuracy and precision of the method, detection limits and sample, day, and lab effects.

RFP CDC-99-OSH-122

Title: *Toxicity of low concentration, long-term exposure to an airborne mixture of nitrous oxide and halothane*

Deadline: *May 10, 1974*

The contractor will validate with controlled animal toxicity studies recent epidemiological reports suggesting increased abortions, possible mutagenic effects and increased incidence of reticuloendothelial malignancies among hospital operating room personnel. Cause and effect relationships have yet to be established between these proposed occupational maladies and the inhalation of mixtures of nitrous oxide and halothane.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Title: Evaluation of assays for circulating tumor associated antigens

Contractor: Emory University, Atlanta, $47,965

Title: Development of parenteral dosage forms for clinical investigation

Contractor: Univ. of Kansas School of Pharmacy (supplemental), $285,000

Title: Synthesis of cancer chemotherapy compounds

Contractor: Starks Associates, Inc., Buffalo, $1,014,343 (continuation)

Title: Maintenance of primary genetic production center for inbred, outbred and hybrid rodents in BIO-containment environments

Contractor: Leo Goodwin Institute for Cancer Research, $184,768

Title: Maintenance of genetic production center for inbred and hybrid rodents

Contractor: Simonsen Laboratories, Gilroy, Calif., $109,789

Title: Bioautography of cytotoxic samples from plant resources

Contractor: Univ. of Wisconsin, $78,000

Title: Role of circulating tumor antigens in immunotherapy

Contractor: Scripps Clinic & Research Foundation, La Jolla, Calif., $114,689

Panel Hopeful President Will Restore Training Grants, NIH Cuts; Rogers Revives Dormant TG Bill

(Continued from page 1)

firm or deny, was that after hearing Schmidt state the case for training grants, the President turned to James H. Cavanaugh, White House health advisor, and asked if that was his opinion, too. When Cavanaugh replied that it was, Nixon reportedly said, "Then take care of it."

Schmidt did tell *The Cancer Newsletter* that "training grants and additional funding for the other institutes is under discussion. I regard the two as sort of a package. They might be separated, but I'm pursuing both. I regard both as of equal importance to the cancer program, and I would hate to have to make a decision if I was told we could have only one."

Schmidt and Nixon have at least one consideration in common in the matter of increased funding for non-heart and cancer programs at NIH: An announcement to that effect now would reduce some of the support for the biomedical research panel added to the cancer program extension bill by Sen. Kennedy. At press time, the House had not yet acted on the bill and was not scheduled to do so before the Easter recess. The panel provision is not in the bill that will go to the House floor, but there has been some talk of a move to add it as an amendment.

Schmidt is opposed to the panel because he feels it won't work, and he doesn't want to serve on it, as the language of the Kennedy amendment provides. Nixon is opposed to it and would be faced with the difficult choice of accepting it or vetoing the cancer program extension, not a happy decision to make.

The President is also under the gun on training grants. Chairman Paul Rogers of the House Health Subcommittee finally agreed to a conference with the Senate to work out differences in training grant revival bills that have cleared both houses by huge majorities. The bill would make the program mandatory (it had previously been operated under general authority granted the HEW secretary). If Rogers can work out his differences with Kennedy, who returned from his European trip to attend the conference this week, it won't make much difference whether or not Nixon reinstates the old program. The new bill would be assured of passage, by veto proof margins.

MEETINGS

NCI advisory group meetings frequently are closed, usually for review of contract and grant applications. Times scheduled as open will be shown with each listing, but these sometimes are changed.

Development Research Working Group, NIH Bldg 37, room 1BO4, April 15, open 9-9:30 a.m.

Biology & Immunology Segment Advisory Group, NIH Bldg 37 room 3A15, April 19, open 2-3 p.m.

Cancer Clinical Investigating Review Committee, NIH Bldg 31 conference room 6, April 22-24, open 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. April 22.

Solid Tumor Virus Working Group, NIH Bldg 37 room 1BO4, April 22-23, open 9-9:20 a.m. April 22.

President's Cancer Panel, NIH Bldg 31 conference room 2, April 23, 9:30 a.m., open.

Breast Cancer Epidemiology Committee, NIH Bldg 31 conference room 3, April 23, open 1-5 p.m.

Biometry & Epidemiology Review Committee, Landow Bldg room A313, April 24, open 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Cancer Control Treatment & Rehabilitation Committee, Holiday Inn, 8777 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, Md., April 25-26, open 8:30-9:30 a.m. April 25.

Committee on Cancer Immunotherapy, NIH Bldg 10, room 4B17, April 25, open 11-11:30 a.m.

Cancer Control Education & Rehabilitation Review Committee, NIH Bldg 1, Wilson Hall, April 26, open 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Cancer Treatment Advisory Committee, NIH Bldg 31, conference room 10, April 29, open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Lung Cancer Segment Advisory Group, NIH Bldg 31, conference room 3, April 29, open 3-4 p.m.

SOLE SOURCE

Proposals are listed here for information purposes only. RFPs are not available.

Title: Synthesis of unique compounds for cancer chemotherapy studies
Contractor: Midwest Regional Institute, Kansas City, Mo.

Title: Planning for a regional cancer access information system
Contractor: Colorado Regional Cancer Center, Inc.

Title: Evaluation of thermography in mass screening for breast cancer
Contractor: Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York (renewal).

The Cancer Newsletter—*Editor* JERRY D. BOYD

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