THE CANCER NEWSLETTER

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FORD ASKS NCAB FOR SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR REGULATION OF TAR AND NICOTINE CONTENT OF CIGARETTES BY DEC. 1

President Ford, responding to a resolution by the National Cancer Advisory Board, has asked Board Chairman Jonathan Rhoads to "provide me with an assessment of the extent to which there exists a scientific basis for the responsible regulation of cigarettes." The President requested the information by Dec. 1.

The resolution (*The Cancer Newsletter*, June 28) asked the President and Congress to take any steps necessary to provide a federal agency with regulatory powers required to establish and enforce maximum tar and nicotine contents of cigarettes. The same resolution was sent last year to President Nixon, but it was ignored.

Rhoads was in Florence, Italy, this week for the International Cancer

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In Brief

NCI MAY LOSE SOME HARD-WON NEW POSITIONS TO FORD'S FEDERAL JOB CUTS; ASK $898.5 MILLION FOR FISCAL 1976

WHITE HOUSE is reneging on the 100 additional positions for NCI promised earlier this year after Benno Schmidt and his Cancer Panel pressured the Office of Management & Budget to back down on personnel limits. Director Frank Rauscher filled 65 of the positions, planned to use the rest later this year. Now it appears he'll lose 30-40 slots to President Ford's determination to trim federal employment by 2%. Rauscher says the limit on positions is the greatest single deterrent to progress in the cancer program. . . . **NCI ASKED** for the full amount authorized by the National Cancer Act--$898.5 million--when the budget request for the 1976 fiscal year was presented to OMB. Representatives of OMB indicated the President's budget would not include anything like that amount. . . . **CONGRESS** recessed until after the election without clearing the HEW appropriations bill, which probably will wind up with $690 million for NCI. . . . **CLYDE GOODHEART**, the investigator who lost his contract with NCI for developing methods of preparing purified oncogenic herpes viruses because his creative approach deviated from specifications in the RFP, is still in the running to get the recompeted award. Goodheart, who works for Bio Labs, a commercial firm in Illinois, had finished the second year of the contract when NCI determined that federal contract regulations required that it be recompeted (*The Cancer Newsletter*, Feb. 22). This infuriated Tumor Virus Working Group members who had given top priority to continuation of Goodheart's contract and felt he was being penalized for his creativity. NCI wrote a broader RFP which, without revealing Goodheart's proprietary ideas, would permit him to continue his work, if his new proposal is accepted. There were other proposals, however; NCI is now evaluating them, probably will announce the winner in December.

PRESIDENT WANTS SCIENTIFIC REASONS FOR CIGARETTE REGULATION BY DEC. 1

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Congress and was not available for comment. But he had received the letter before he left, and appointed a subcommittee to meet Nov. 1 to write the assessment for recommendation to the Board. Next meeting of the Board is Nov. 18-20.

The subcommittee consists of Rhoads as chairman; board member Philippe Shubik of Eppley Institute; NCI executives Gio Gori, chairman of the Tobacco Working Group, and Marvin Schneiderman, who heads the field studies and statistics branch of the Div. of Cause & Prevention; Cuyler Hammond of the American Cancer Society.

Ordinarily, getting a committee, or even two scientists, to agree on the "scientific basis" for tar and nicotine standards would not be easy. Another subcommittee headed by Shubik spent several months last year trying to come up with such a recommendation but could not.

The Shubik subcommittee did finally write the resolution which evoked Ford's response. But it could not agree on what constituted "safe" maximum levels of the toxic substances in cigarettes. Some members felt any amount should be considered unsafe; others argued that the act of placing government approval on a tar and nicotine figure, ignoring carbon monoxide and other possibly harmful components, might encourage smoking. One member argued the tobacco industry's position, that there is no scientific basis for determining any safe level.

The new committee seems more likely to reach a consensus, however. Rhoads has argued that the tar and nicotine level might reasonably be the median between the average and the lowest of existing cigarettes. Shubik is an outspoken critic of the tobacco industry.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission had rejected by a 3-2 vote the suggestion of its chairman that it had the power to establish cigarette safety standards under the Hazardous Substances Act. The act which created the commission specifically excluded tobacco products from its jurisdiction, but the chairman argued that the Hazardous substances Act took precedence. Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho) has filed court action to overturn the decision.

If Church's effort fails, only new legislation by Congress could give the Product Safety Commission, or any other agency, regulatory powers over cigarettes. And that would require an all-out, determined effort by the President to overcome the tobacco lobby.

The Nov. 1 meeting will start at 2 p.m. at NIH. It will be open to the public.

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 and Diagnosis Divisions are located at: NCI, Landow Bldg. NIH, 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 NCI-CM-55373

Title: *Pharmacologic studies of antitumor agents*
Deadline: *Dec. 13, 1974*

NCI plans to conduct studies on the preclinical pharmacology and physiological disposition of new antitumor agents in a variety of in vivo and in vitro test systems. Studies are to be carried out in a laboratory which should have close affiliation with a comprehensive cancer treatment and clinical pharmacology unit within the same parent institution, in order to permit integration of the studies with ongoing phase I and phase II clinical trials of antitumor agents in man.

The contractor shall perform studies in at least two mammalian species of the absorption, distribution, plsma protein binding, metabolism, and urinary and biliary excretion of such agents; develop analytical methodology where necessary; perform studies of the effects of cancer chemotherapeutic agents on mammalian cell culture lines; and develop pharmacokinetic models of the behavior of antitumor drugs in vivo.

The selection of compounds for study is to be made by the project officer, and will reflect the interests of the NCI Div. of Cancer Treatment in developing new antitumor drugs for clinical trial in man. It is anticipated that three to five new agents will be submitted by the project officer for study per year. The objective is the elucidation of pharmacological information of immediate practical usefulness to the physician involved in the clinical introduction of new antitumor agents.

Contract Specialist: Deborah J. Bowers
Cancer Treatment
301-427-7460

RFP NCI-CN-55180-04

Title: *Prototype network demonstration projects in head and neck cancer*
Deadline: *About Jan. 5, 1975*

The Cancer Control Program is soliciting proposals for projects to plan and implement a network of co-

operating hospitals for cancer control activities related to the diagnosis, staging, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with all stages of carcinoma of the head and neck (primary presentation to metastatic disease).

These cooperating hospitals must represent a reasonable geographic area, for example, a part of a city, a city, several cities, or a state. The number of hospitals or organizations cooperating in the network will not be limited, but evidence will be required that formal arrangements exist or can be developed.

Letters demonstrating institutional commitment will be required with the proposal and a formal constitution or similar document must be developed during the planning stage. The initial planning phase will be the responsibility of the contractor. After this phase, protocols used for demonstration projects will be developed jointly by the NCI and the contractor.

A network must be capable of annually entering at least 200 patients with all stages of head and neck cancer into new control activities. Offerors will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in clinical, technical and biostatistical procedures. In addition, offerors must possess adequate clinical, administrative and biostatistical personnel and facilities to perform this effort.

Contracting Officer: Hugh E. Mahanes
Cancer Control
301-427-7984

CONTRACT AWARDS

Title: Design synthesis and biochemical action of agents affecting plasma membranes
Contractor: Yale Unov., $174,000.

Title: Bioenergetic aspects of cancer chemotherapy agents
Contractor: Univ. of Pennsylvania, $68,988.

NEW GRANTS AND AWARDS

Following are the rest of the grants related to cancer research announced by NIH for the period of March, April and May, 1974. Research grants for states other than Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin were published last week.

UTAH

Univ. of Utah–Michael R. Franklin, modification of polycyclic hydrocarbon carcinogenesis, $25,515.

VERMONT

Univ. of Vermont–Carol J. Smith, hepatoma alpha fetoprotein: chemistry and metabolism, $35,591.

VIRGINIA

Virginia Commonwealth Univ.–Page S. Morahan, immunoadjuvants for herpes simplex, $32,497.

WASHINGTON

Univ. of Washington–John M. Keller, biochemistry of herpes virus-induced cell fusion, $37,100. Edward D. Kiehn, viral genes in malignant transformation, $51,765. Gottfried Schmer, chemical modification of antitumor enzymes, $50,000.

WISCONSIN

Univ. of Wisconsin–James R. Allen, carcinogenic potential of the pyrrolizidine alkaloids, $43,312. Stanley Goldfarb, cholesterol metabolism in hepatic neoplasms, $16,836. David H. Petering, study of metal chemistry of thiosemicarbazones, $62,855.

Medical College of Wisconsin–Robert O. Hussa, mechanism of actinomycin D-enhanced HCG secretion, $87,177. Jeannie J. Kinzie, modification of hepatic radiation injury by heparin, $32,650.

UNITED KINGDOM

Univ. of Manchester–Geoffrey Taylor, tumor-specific immunity in bladder cancer, $36,985.

RESEARCH TRAINING GRANTS

ARKANSAS

Univ. of Arkansas–Kent C. Westbrook, clinical cancer training program, $96,768.

CALIFORNIA

Univ. of California (Berkeley)–Warren Winkelstein Jr., training program for cancer epidemiology, $73,311.

Univ. of California (San Francisco)–Harvey M. Patt, research in experimental oncology, $68,325.

Stanford Univ.–Saul A. Rosenberg, investigative oncology, $102,794.

GEORGIA

Medical College of Georgia–Steve Kolas, clinical cancer training–dental, $22,273.

ILLINOIS

Univ. of Illinois (Chicago)–Sheldon Dray, molecular and cellular oncology, $69,230.

MASSACHUSETTS

Harvard Univ.–Gerald Shklar, clinical training program in oral cancer, $39,528.

Peter Bent Brigham Hospital–William C. Moloney, clinical cancer, $72,123.

NEW YORK

Roswell Park Memorial Institute–Edward D. Holyoke, surgical oncology research traineeship, $44,064.

PENNSYLVANIA

Institute for Cancer Research–Paul F. Engstrom, Fox Chase Center: clinical cancer training program, $38,340.

TENNESSEE

Univ. of Tennessee (Knoxville)–Francis T. Kenney, training in carcinogenesis research, $104,490.

Vanderbilt Univ.–Albert S. Kaplan, regulation of cell and virus growth, $43,113.

Oak Ridge Associated Universities–Gould A. Andrews, an interdisciplinary training program in cancer, $62,919.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

ARIZONA

Univ. of Arizona–Leo J. McMahon, immunology.

CALIFORNIA

Univ. of California (Berkeley)–Thomas D. Meehan,

biochemistry. Robert J. Palzer, biology. James E. Summerton, biochemistry.

Univ. of California (San Diego)—Amnon Gonenne, biochemistry. Ben Y. Tseng, biochemistry.

Univ. of California (San Francisco)—Mark L. Rosenblum, pharmacology.

Salk Institute—Nancy J. Axelrod, cell biology.

Stanford Univ.—Bruce Ganem, chemistry. James A. Kloek, chemistry.

CONNECTICUT

Yale Univ.—Walter B. Lundberg Jr., cancer chemotherapy. Marjorie W. Myers, pharmacology. Stephen A. Rudolph, biochemistry.

FLORIDA

Univ. of Florida—Thomas M. Hickey, pharmacology.

Florida State Univ.—Robert B. Calmes Jr., microbiology.

GEORGIA

Univ. of Georgia—John P. Donahoe, microbiology.

MARYLAND

Carnegie Institution of Washington D.C. (Baltimore)—Dana Carroll, cell biology.

National Institutes of Health—Paul C. MacDonnell, biochemistry.

MASSACHUSETTS

Harvard Univ.—Leroy M. Parker, pharmacology. Penchala K. Reddi, biolchemistry.

MIT—Richard M. Jacobson, chemistry.

MICHIGAN

Michigan State Univ.—James N. Behnke, microbiology. William W. Farrar, microbiology.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dartmouth—Constance Brinckerhoff, cell biology. Frederick Cahn, cell biology. Mary L. Ledbetter, pathology. Philip G. Phillips, biology.

NEW YORK

Children's Hospital (Buffalo)—Georgirene Vladutiu, biochemistry.

SUNY (Buffalo)—Jerald K. Rasmussen, chemistry.

Rockefeller Univ.—Paul J. Edelson, microbiology. Allan T. Khoury, microbiology.

Yeshiva Univ.—Judith Leff, microbiology.

NORTH CAROLINA

Univ. of North Carolina—Eng-Shang Huang, microbiology.

OHIO

Ohio State Univ.—David R. Amick, chemistry.

PENNSYLVANIA

Institute for Cancer Research—Lewis M. Dubroff, biology.

TEXAS

Baylor—Robert S. Conrad, biochemistry. Duane L. Pierson, biochemistry. Marion Steiner, microbiology.

Rice Univ.—Sidneye C. Trowbridge, biochemistry.

Univ. of Texas (San Antonio)—Mark E. Costlow, cell biology.

VIRGINIA

Univ. of Virginia—Alan R. Branfman, biochemistry.

WASHINGTON

Univ. of Washington—Roosevelt Y. Johnson, cell biology.

WISCONSIN

Univ. of Wisconsin—Steven H. Grossman, biochemistry. Rameshwar K. Sharma, cell biology. David A. Zarling, cell biology.

CANADA

Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland—Chester J. Michalski, biochemistry.

FRANCE

Institut Gustave Roussey—Elwood H. Labrosse, biochemistry.

JAPAN

Aichi Cancer Center—Edwin D. Murphy, pathology.

UNITED KINGDOM

Imperial Cancer Research Fund (London)—Piero C. Balduzzi, microbiology.

Univ. of London—Gail R. Martin, biology.

RESEARCH CAREER PROGRAM AWARDS

ARKANSAS

Univ. of Arkansas—E. Robert Burns, chronobiological study of cell growth.

CALIFORNIA

Univ. of Southern California—John W. Beierle, effect of cell exudates on oral tumors.

FLORIDA

Univ. of Florida—Wayne E. Criss, metabolic controls in neoplasia.

MICHIGAN

Michigan State Univ.—Leland F. Velicer, molecular biology of RNA tumor viruses.

MISSOURI

Washington Univ. (St. Louis)—Hsiu-San Lin, effect of cytotoxic drugs on lymphoma cells.

NEW YORK

New York Medical College—Gail A. Theis, Marek's disease: an immunogenetic study.

OHIO

Case Western Reserve Univ.—Lloyd A. Culp, surface properties of cancer and revertant cells.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Medical Univ. of South Carolina—William C. Wise, amino acid transport in normal and neoplastic cells.

CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

WISCONSIN

Univ. of Wisconsin—Harold P. Rusch, new cancer facility.

The Cancer Newsletter—*Editor* JERRY D. BOYD

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