

- 1150 Clinical Pharmacologic Study of Chemotherapy and X-Ray Therapy in Lung Cancer. T. C. Hall, et al. *Am. J. Med.* 43, 186-193 (August, 1967).

The addition of the chemotherapeutic agents actinomycin D and 5-fluorouracil, given with x-ray in a dosage regimen sufficient to produce definite but tolerable gastrointestinal and marrow toxicity, did not increase the percentage of patients with carcinoma of the lung showing shrinkage of lesions in the irradiated field. There was no evidence of a more rapid onset of shrinkage of the tumor or of an additive effect at subtotal doses of x-ray. Toxicity was not correlated with responses induced. Patients classified as responders to therapy lived longer than those classified as nonresponders.

-- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

- 1151 Effects of Tobacco Smoke on Lung Tissue as Measured by Electron Spin Resonance. J. R. Rowlands, D. G. Cadena, Jr., and A. L. Gross. *Nature* 213, 1256-1258 (March 25, 1967).

This method enabled lung tissue to be directly exposed to cigarette smoke in a manner similar to normal smoking and resulted in the observation of distinct changes in the lung tissue as measured by electron spin resonance.

-- Public Health Eng. Absts.

- 1152 Bronchogenic Carcinoma Factors in Survival. G. A. Higgins and G. W. Beebe. *Arch. Surg.* 94, 539 (1967).

The only patients with lung cancer who survive five years are those treated by surgical excision. No beneficial effects had been demonstrated from any of the chemotherapeutic drugs in doses used in the Veterans Administration Surgical Adjuvant Cancer Chemotherapy Group, which includes 23 hospitals. The probability of death following curative resection is highest in the immediate post-operative period and thereafter declines rapidly, approaching, but not quite reaching, the mortality for persons of comparable age, sex and race in the general population. Of the clinically curative resection group dying within 30 days, 26% were found to have residual disease at autopsy. The five-year survival rate of the curative resections was 25%. Of the 40 characteristics analyzed, only 13 showed relationships to long-term survival and these had to do with the age of the patient and the extent of the disease. Though right pneumonectomy had a much higher operative mortality than lobectomy, five-year survival rates were the same. Cell type did not exert any significant statistical influence. The size of the lesion is quite unrelated to the probability of death from lung cancer in the first five years after curative surgery. Nor was the length of history a factor in survival. The extent of the disease as determined by the pathological examination is the overriding factor in determining long-term survival.

-- Can. Med. Assn. J. Absts.

- 1153 Carmine as a Source of Nosocomial Salmonellosis. D. J. Lang, et al. *New Engl. J. Med.* 276, 829 (1967).

A hospital epidemic of *Salmonella cubana* is reported in this paper. The infection was traced to the use of contaminated carmine dye. Additional unrelated cases of infection with this rarely reported bacterium were simultaneously recognized. Carmine, used widely as a coloring principle in foods, drugs and cosmetics, is derived from an insect source, and epidemiological factors suggest that human infection may have occurred sporadically for years. Investigations stimulated by recognition of nosocomial outbreaks have revealed contamination of several food products. The failure to recognize *S. cubana* may in part be traced to the failure of bacteriology laboratories to employ appropriate biochemical and serologic procedures. Caution is urged in the prescription and liberal use of items administered to hospitalized patients and others at great risk.

-- Can. Med. Assn. J. Abst.

- 1154 Immunologic Studies of Pigeon Breeder's Disease. J. N. Fink, J. J. Barboriak, and A. J. Sosman. *J. Allergy* 39, 214-221 (April, 1967).

Immunological reactions of patients with pigeon breeder's disease were studied during a symptomatic and an asymptomatic phase of the illness. The decrease in severity and recovery from the illness were accompanied by a decrease in the intensity of skin reactivity and diminution in titer of gamma G-antibodies to various pigeon antigens. There are 13 references.

-- Authors' abst., Public Health Eng. Absts.