noted in the organism remote from it are elicited by an antibody-antigen interaction (von Pirquet; and Opie.) Allergy is thus one of the phenomena connected with the production of biocatalytically active proteins (antibodies), which may differ from ordinary, inert proteins probably only by comparatively slight changes in the chemical arrangement and composition of the component aminoacids, and resemble enzymes in their functional reactivity in many respects. An analysis of the existing evidence reveals the following similarities and relations between allergic and neoplastic responses and phenomena.

Age. von Pirquet, who introduced the concept of allergy, claimed that the fluctuations in tumor incidence noted for the different age periods are related to variations in the allergic status of the organism. As the incidence of cancers in general increases with age, it is of importance that allergic diseases follow the same trend (Kämmerer). Many allergies develop after a prolonged but often discontinued exposure to the causative allergens, especially those of an industrial nature (Doerr), and thus show a long latency period similar to that present in occupational malignancies. Doerr as well as Kämmerer found that allergies are uncommon in babies, thereby displaying an additional similarity with the age distribution of malignant tumors.

Heredity. It has been stated previously that cancers are probably not directly inherited, but that only a special-tissue reactivity is transmitted, which may favor the development of a malignant tumor later on, if an exposure to a suitable exogenous or endogenous, carcinogenic agent is sustained. A similar concept is held in regard to allergies (Doerr). This investigator mentioned that only a certain predisposition to hypersensitivity diseases is inherited, while the type of allergy appearing in later life depends upon the type of exposure and on the nature of the allergen, which, in turn, control the character and site of the organ response (Hofmeier). Observations made in connection with occupational cancers (pitch and aromatic amines) and experimental pulmonary malignancies in mice (Andervont) have shown that, given a sufficiently heavy exposure to a carcinogenic agent, 100 per cent of the exposed individuals will react ultimately with a cancer regardless of the degree of heredity. Vaughan has made similar claims concerning the allergic responsiveness of man when subjected to similar conditions.

When Andervont concluded that the difference between inherently cancer susceptible strains and cancer refractory strains was merely a matter of degree, he expressed an opinion which is in perfect agreement with that of Lintz concerning the difference between normal, "nonallergic" people and allergic people in their response to gastrointestinal allergens. The occurrence of congenital allergy and malignant tumors in identical twins represents an additional similarity between these two reactions. A "congenital" but nongenetic sensitization in such cases may take place either by a diaplacental penetration of an allergen, or by a transfer of maternal allergens with the