

## **Call for Papers in Cancer Epidemiology**

The purpose of this Editorial is to announce that *Cancer Research* wishes to increase its volume of publication in all areas of cancer epidemiology. *Cancer Research*, as the official journal of the American Association for Cancer Research, publishes papers on all aspects of research on cancer ranging from biophysics and molecular biology to clinical investigations of every kind. The Editorial Board's interpretation of what constitutes cancer research has always been very wide, the main criterion for acceptance being the quality of the science. In January 1982 a change in the format of the journal was introduced in which the papers were divided into two broad sections: "Basic Sciences" and "Clinical and Epidemiological Investigations." Although clinical papers had always been accepted, the number was never large and the Editors felt that the new clinical section would draw attention to those papers which had previously tended to be obscured among the larger number of basic science papers. Since the primary aim of all cancer research must be the prevention and cure of the disease in humans, the greater emphasis on human cancer implicit in clinical studies was thought to be desirable. In its new format, the journal stimulated greater interactions between laboratory and clinical scientists to the advantage of both, and to the whole of research in this field.

*Cancer Research* also strongly encourages contributions dealing with cancer epidemiology. At present, this field is relatively underrepresented among *Cancer Research* articles. Epidemiology in its various facets impinges on all areas of basic and clinical cancer research. However interesting and stimulating a basic or clinical report may be, its ultimate impact on human cancer, whether to test a new etiological hypothesis or treatment regime, requires epidemiological investigation of a quality as high as that of earlier studies. Equally important is the generation of hypotheses by epidemiological work which are then tested in experimental animals or by critical clinical studies in human subjects. In order for *Cancer Research* to fulfill its role as a major journal of publication of all subfields of cancer research, it must encompass more good epidemiology.

To mark the new emphasis in this area, our reviewing Board of Associate Editors has recently been strengthened by the appointment of additional expert epidemiologists. Also, *Cancer Research* has published a special series of papers that were presented at the Fifth Symposium on Epidemiology and Cancer Registries in the Pacific Basin held in Hawaii in November 1986, in addition to an increasing number of regular epidemiology studies. Thus, in light of these measures and our continuing high standards and rapidity of publication, we feel that the time is now right for a major expansion of epidemiology in the journal and trust that cancer epidemiologists will consider *Cancer Research* as the optimal publication outlet for their work.

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