

Message from the New Editor-in-Chief

Over the years, *Cancer Research* has achieved a position of preeminence among the scientific journals publishing articles on cancer research and cancer-related biomedical science. While the readership is extremely wide and the journal is rated among the twenty most referenced scientific journals, a great majority of its articles focus primarily on a few of the scientific disciplines involved in cancer research. It is one of my major goals as Editor-in-Chief of *Cancer Research* to broaden the journal to make it a truly comprehensive cancer research journal in which articles in all of the most interesting and exciting areas of modern cancer research have their forum. It is clear, for example, that the journal has been only partially successful in attracting manuscripts concerning the most recent advances in cancer genetics, molecular biology, and immunology; in the role of cellular proto-oncogenes in malignant transformation, cell differentiation, and mammalian development; and in the functional, biochemical, and structural characterization of the products of oncogenes and cancer suppressor genes. *Cancer Research* should be the natural publication outlet for such articles, since developments in these areas of research are likely to provide a new understanding of the mechanisms involved in the pathogenesis and progression of human tumors. Similarly, the definition of the signal transduction pathways and of the control mechanisms of gene expression in normal and malignant cells may provide important new findings concerning the molecular events leading to malignant transformation. Drug design, molecular modeling, and structural studies may provide insights on which to base rational development of new drugs to be used in the therapy of human cancer. Thus *Cancer Research* should attract manuscripts concerning the etiology, pathogenesis, and progression of human cancer; the biochemical, immunological, structural, and cytogenetic characterization of the cancer cell; and the *in vivo* consequences of cancer growth and spread. It should also attract manuscripts dealing with early clinical trials which model novel approaches to the therapy of human cancer. The journal will also be very interested in publishing the results of clinical research which clearly defines the efficacy of a new cancer therapy. In addition, cancer epidemiology is an area of considerable interest for *Cancer Research*, since this research could provide important new clues concerning cancer etiology and pathogenesis.

It is of course essential that the quality of the papers published in *Cancer Research* be high. However, it is equally important for the journal to process and publish papers promptly. Investigators at the forefront of studies in cancer research expect a rigorous review of their papers, but they are not willing to wait long periods of time before their papers are published. We will make every possible effort to improve and shorten the review process.

By broadening the interests of the journal to include all the disciplines critical to modern cancer research, by enhancing the quality of the papers published, and by expediting the review and publication processes, I believe that *Cancer Research* will become a leader among preeminent journals reporting advances in the biomedical sciences.

Carlo M. Croce
Editor-in-Chief