Symposium on Cancer and Immunity*

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Introduction to the Symposium

Many data have been accumulated in the studies on cancer and immunity. Many problems, however, still remain to be solved in the field of cancer immunology.

In this symposium four major problems were reported and discussed; 1) cancer specific antigens, 2) immunological findings in cancer patients, 3) immunological diagnosis of cancer patients, and 4) immunotherapy of cancer.

Most important point to establish immunological diagnosis as well as immunotherapy might be the detection of cancer specific antigen.

There are several evidences that immunity plays a role in the development of human cancer, for instances spontaneous regression, dormant cancer cells, an in-

creased incidence of cancer in immunodeficient status, and clinical effects of immunotherapy with BCG or *C. parvum*.

On the other hand, more definite evidence has been obtained in animal than in human. It is the case particularly in the systems using highly inbred or syngeneic mouse and chemically induced or virus induced tumors.

At present, there are many arguments on what kind of cells are involved in cytotoxicity to cancer cells. Nonspecific immunity may also contribute to cytotoxicity.

These problems should be solved in order to evaluate the effects of so called immunopotentiator or immunomodulator in the treatment of cancer.

(1) Carcinofoetal Antigens and Its Clinical Significance

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The interrelationship between cancer and foetus was already emphasized by observa-

tions in pathology, serology (L. Hirschfeld), and biochemistry (O. Warburg). "Certain

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