

IN 1986 the First International EORTC Symposium on 'Hormonal Manipulation of Cancer: Peptides, Growth Factors and New (Anti) Steroidal Agents' was held in Rotterdam and was visited by about 450 participants. The abstracts of that first symposium were published in the *European Journal of Cancer and Clinical Oncology* (Vol. 22; pp. 711–751, 1986), while the Proceedings were published in the EORTC Monograph Series (Vol. 18). In view of the great success of the first symposium 4 years ago, a Second International Symposium on 'Hormonal Manipulation of Cancer: Peptides, Growth Factors and New (Anti) Steroidal Agents' was held in Rotterdam, 9–11 April 1990. The 3-day programme focussed on new biological findings and therapeutic approaches in the area of a broad spectrum of malignant tumours such as breast cancer, prostate cancer, endometrial cancer, gonadal tumours, renal and bladder cancer, lung cancer, pancreatic and gastrointestinal tumours, melanomas, meningiomas, hepatomas etc. The topics of the meeting are indicated overleaf. The session on prostate cancer was held in honour of Prof. Dr H.J. de Voogt on the occasion of his retirement. The symposium was visited by specialists of various disciplines such as medical oncology, endocrinology, internal medicine, urology, gynaecology, surgery, radiotherapy, biochemistry and cell biology. During the eight sessions a great number of outstanding experimental and clinical investigators presented interesting data in the field of hormones and cancer. In addition, free poster session were included in the programme. Compared with 1986 the number of submitted and accepted abstracts increased clearly from 144 to over 200 as published in this issue of the *European Journal of Cancer*. The first 68 abstracts were presented by the speakers, the others (69–202) grouped as much as possible by topic at the poster sessions. The Proceedings of the meeting will again be published in the EORTC Monograph Series. Herewith the organizers would like to thank their institutions, the EORTC, the Editors of this Journal, the Dutch Cancer Society, the pharmaceutical industry and all who have contributed to the success of the meeting. Hopefully a third one will be organized in 1994.

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