Comments and Critique

EJC Expands: Oral Oncology

WE ARE pleased to announce the launch of the first EJC fascicle, a new journal in oral and perioral oncology.

The editor, Crispian Scully, is Professor of Oral Medicine, Surgery and Pathology at Bristol University. He qualified in Dentistry at the University of London in 1968, obtained a BSc in Biochemistry in 1971 and qualified in Medicine in 1974. His



Crispian Scully

PhD and Fellowship in Dental Surgery were awarded in 1979 and MRCPath in 1983. In 1982 he was appointed to the Chair in Oral Medicine, Surgery and Pathology at Bristol University.

Professor Scully is Head of the University Department of Oral Medicine, Surgery and Pathology; and Head of the Centre for Study of Oral Disease in Bristol, UK. His main research interests are in virology and immunology in relation to oral disease. He has been particularly involved in studying the epidemiology and aetiopathogenesis of oral squamous carcinoma, particularly the possible associations with herpes simplex virus and human papillomavirus, and the role of host immune reactions.

Crispian Scully brings extensive research and clinical experience in oral medicine to the new journal, which will appear under the editors of the *EJC* with a senior international editorial advisory board and a board of consulting editors.

This new development is in keeping with the interdisciplinary emphasis of the *EJC* and focuses on a rather diffuse and in some ways neglected area of oncology, which concerns a wide range of disciplines and which presents an increasing problem in the developed and developing world.

The first issue of the new journal will be in 1992. Details to authors and subscribers will be published in full this year in issue 12 of the E7C.

Michael Peckham Editor in Chief European Journal of Cancer

Eur J Cancer, Vol. 27, No. 11, p. 1341, 1991. Printed in Great Britain 0277-5379/91 \$3.00 + 0.00 © 1991 Pergamon Press plc

Oral Oncology

ORAL SQUAMOUS CARCINOMA is regarded as about the sixth most common malignant neoplasm worldwide. Particularly a problem in the Third World, there is now evidence that it is increasing in the West. A range of other neoplasms involve the mouth and perioral tissues: these include particularly neoplasms of salivary glands, and those in immunoincompetent hosts, including HIV disease.

Oral disease, however, is also a major component of many malignancies, and is a serious problem in terms of symptomatology and prognosis. The mouth is, for example, a prime source of septicaemia in leukaemics. Oral lesions are extremely common and symptomatic in patients on cancer chemotherapy, where there is radiotherapy to the head and neck region, and in bone

marrow and other transplants.

The new interdisciplinary journal, *Oral Oncology*, will, for the first time, draw together issues relating to aetiopathogenesis, epidemiology, prevention and management and will appeal to basic researchers in these disciplines, epidemiologists, head and neck surgeons, dentists, pathologists and non-medical health care professionals concerned with oral care, as well as oncologists and other clinicians.

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