

## Obituary

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THE UNTIMELY DEATH of Professor Geoffrey Chisholm on 10 November 1994 at the age of 63 has left a gap in the ranks of European urologists which will not be easily filled. Geoffrey Duncan Chisholm was born in New Zealand, but graduated in medicine from Dundee in 1955. His contributions included pioneer work in renal transplantation at the Hammersmith Hospital, and later he began the search for androgen receptors in the prostate. His outstanding contributions to urology caused him to be invited to become a part-time Senior Lecturer in the Institute of Urology and St Peter's Hospital, a post which he retained after being appointed in 1977 to the Chair of Surgery in the Edinburgh Medical School, where he began a major study of the natural history of carcinoma of the prostate whose data empowered him to urge caution in the somewhat uncritical enthusiasm for radical surgery which abounds today. Geoff Chisholm had a most attractive sparkle and energy which made him a favourite speaker, and as chairman of a panel he could be relied upon to make any session a success. In addition to his clinical work and research, Geoffrey was Editor of the *British*

*Journal of Urology*, served on the editorial board of many other journals and jointly with David Innes Williams produced the notable *Scientific Foundations of Urology*.

He had been President of the British Association of Urological Surgeons and of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh where his portrait, painted towards the end of his term of office, shows that something was not right, and indeed, it was not long after that liver metastases were discovered from a carcinoid in the bowel. In spite of much discomfort, and knowing his fate, he continued to work with gusto, and was in Sydney for the International Meeting just before the end: a magnificent example to us all. His wife Angela and their two sons survive him.

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