

SUMMARY MINUTES

NATIONAL CANCER ADVISORY BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE ON ORGAN SITE PROGRAMS

Conference Room 6, C Wing
NIH
Building 31, Bethesda, Maryland

March 31 - April 1, 1982

The NCAB Subcommittee on National Organ Site Programs convened in open session at 7:30 p.m. on March 31, 1982, in Conference Room 6, Building 31, on the NIH Campus. Attached is a roster of the Subcommittee. In addition, Mrs. Rose Kushner and Dr. Janet Rowley, members of the National Cancer Advisory Board, also attended at the request of the Subcommittee. Mrs. Lombardi, Dr. Selikoff, and Dr. Shubik were absent. Also present were NCI staff and members of the public.

Dr. Powers opened the meeting by stating the purpose of the meeting, namely, to review the recommendations of the special review committee that reviewed the National Organ Site projects in November 1981, to consider the recommendations of that special review committee, and to develop recommendations regarding the future of the Organ Site Program to be presented at the May NCAB meeting. The evening session was devoted to a discussion of the clinical trials effort in the Organ Site Program and was compared with efforts in the cooperative groups supported through the Division of Cancer Treatment. Data was presented showing that there is little overlap in the clinical trials supported through the Organ Site Program and those supported through the cooperative groups.

Dr. Henney, Deputy Director, NCI, discussed NCI staff recommendations for operating the Organ Site Program. Various options were presented and discussed. The following morning the Subcommittee reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Discussion centered around various options for operating the Organ Site Program. The Subcommittee unanimously agreed that the various headquarters should be consolidated into a single headquarters and that at the outset this would have two divisions, a genitourinary and a gastrointestinal division. Discussion was given to renaming the program the Organ Systems Program. This single headquarters would serve as an organizing unit responsible for program planning, workshops, coordination, and would be responsible for developing concepts for new program directions including emphasizing or initiating programs in new organ systems. It was also agreed that the review of grant applications should be transferred out of the headquarters operation. Applications concerned with basic laboratory and epidemiologic research should be reviewed as RO1/PO1 applications by the appropriate study section in DRG or DEA. Clinical research should be continued in the present mode until the groups can make appropriate submissions to the NCI. Support for the program should be continued in the current mechanism until an orderly transition to the new mode can occur.

The Subcommittee unanimously voted to accept these recommendations in principle and will frame the motion in appropriate language for presentation to the NCAB at the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

NATIONAL CANCER ADVISORY BOARD
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ORGAN SITE PROGRAMS

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