The Interrelationship of Surgery and Radiation Therapy
in the Treatment of Cancer

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The dogma of surgery first and radiation therapy for postsurgical residual disease or recurrence is no longer valid. The modalities of surgery and radiation therapy are in the management of the majority of cancers complimentary to each other. This combined role of these modalities was the subject at the Fifth Annual San Francisco Cancer Symposium on October 17 and 18, 1969. There is little doubt that local recurrences are minimized by properly administered radiation therapy in cancer of the aerodigestive tract, breast, endometrium and rectum. Definite improvement in cure rates in cancers of the paranasal sinuses, laryngeopharynx and superior pulmonary sulcus have resulted from the addition of radiation therapy to surgery. The precise role of the combined modalities in the treatment of cancer of the esophagus, lung, breast, bladder, testes and ovary remains undefined. There appears to be a definite trend away from 'low dose' preoperative radiation therapy toward 'high dose' or 'radical' radiation therapy. These subjects were explored and supporting basic laboratory data correlated with the clinical information in this symposium, 'The Interrelationship of Surgery and Radiation Therapy in Treatment of Cancer'.
Dedication to Dr. J.A. del Regato

The Fifth San Francisco Cancer Symposium and its proceedings are dedicated as a Festschrift to commemorate the sixtieth birthday of J.A. DEL REGATO, M.D. DR. REGATO is Director Of Penrose Cancer Hospital, Colorado Springs, and co-author of probably the most authoritative text on Oncology - CANCER. His dedication to teaching is exemplified by the fact that he has trained 24 of the 118 radiation therapists in the United States who are certified in Therapeutic Radiology. Many of his trainees are now chiefs of departments in medical schools and cancer centers. He is recipient of the Gold Medal of the American College of Radiology. Because of his devotion to the specialty of Radiation Therapy and cancer, we have affectionately dedicated this symposium and this volume.

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