Drug Dosage
The authors and the publisher have exerted every effort to ensure that drug selection and dosage set forth in this text are in accord with current recommendations and practice at the time of publication. However, in view of ongoing research, changes in government regulations, and the constant flow of information relating to drug therapy and drug reactions, the reader is urged to check the package insert for each drug for any change in indications and dosage and for added warnings and precautions. This is particularly important when the recommended agent is a new and/or infrequently employed drug.

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Preface

This book contains presentations and discussions of a brainstorming workshop held in Basel, Switzerland, on February 12, 1982. The organizer was the Disease Oriented Committee for Gastrointestinal Cancer of the SAKK (Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research). The main purpose was an exchange of ideas between experimentalists and clinicians on the present status and possible future role of adriamycin and its derivatives in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancer with the goal of stimulating new clinical trials.
It is obvious that there is no simple solution to the effective control of gastrointestinal cancer. Most of all we need new antineoplastic drugs. We also need a clearer and deeper understanding of pharmacokinetics in relation to drug delivery to tumors. We must gain insight into the true heterogeneity of gastrointestinal cancer. Clonal drug resistance must be defined.
Laboratory and clinical research must be coordinated.
Adriamycin was chosen as the topic of this first workshop because it is
one of the most powerful drugs that have been introduced into the cancer field. It has a wide range of activity in leukemias, lymphomas and solid tumors (e.g. breast cancer, lung cancer). Adriamycin analog research is needed because of its limited activity in gastrointestinal cancer and its unwanted side effects such as cardiotoxicity, local necrosis and total alopecia.

We are grateful to the participants of this workshop for their productive and stimulating contributions. Farmitalia Carlo Erba GmbH, Bern, has taken over the costs for the workshop. Mrs. Yvonne Stadelmann has done all the secretarial work, and without her this publication would have been impossible. Mrs. D. Greder (S. Karger AG, Basel) was most helpful in arranging this book. It is my hope that such workshops will become an integrated part of the future activities of clinical cancer research groups.

W. Weber-Stadelmann