Hormone-Dependent Tumors
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Hormone-Dependent Tumors

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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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Contents

Foreword IX

Tumor Biology of Hormone-Dependent Tumors

Models of Hormone Regulation of Cancer Cells: Endometrial Carcinoma 1

Steroid Receptor Mutations in Breast Cancer 22
Leake, R.; Hocken, A. (Glasgow)

New Methods in Pathology Concerning Prognosis and Prediction of Therapeutic Response of Breast Cancer 28
Schmidt, D. (Kiel)

Relevance of CD44 Variant Epitopes for Diagnosis and Therapy of Human Breast Cancer . 36
Ponta, H.; Hekele, A.; Heider, K.-H. (Karlsruhe); Kaufmann, M.; von Minckwitz, G.; Sinn, H.-P. (Heidelberg); Pals, St.T.; Wielenga, V.J.M. (Amsterdam);
Herrlich, P. (Karlsruhe)

Expression of Adhesion Molecules in Breast Cancer 51
Friedrichs, K. (Hamburg); Franke, F. (Giessen); Jonat, W.; Maass, H. (Hamburg);
Terpe, H.-J. (Giessen); Imhof, B.; Günthert, U. (Basel)
Detection of Breast Cancer Cells in Bone Marrow 58
Clinical Relevance of Breast Cancer-Associated Proteases in Tumor Cell Invasion and Metastasis 73
Schmitt, M.; Jänicke, F.; Wilhelm, O.; Magdoien, V.; Reuning, U. (München); Weidle, U. (Penzberg); Graeff, H. (München)
Expression of Transforming Growth Factor β under Endocrine Therapy 88

Regulation of Tumor Cells by Cytokines 101
Kalthoff, H.; Röder, Ch. (Kiel); Schmiegel, W. (Bochum)

Breast Cancer Prevention

Methodologie Issues in the Chemoprevention of Breast Cancer 111
Cuzick, J. (London)

Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy of Breast Cancer

Results from the NATO and CRC Trials of Adjuvant Tamoxifen Therapy 121
Chemotherapy versus Tamoxifen versus Chemotherapy plus Tamoxifen.
Results of the GROCTA Trial 135
Boccardo, E; Rubagotti, A.; Amoroso, D.; Perrotta, A.; Balestrero, M. (Genova);
Sismondi, P.; De Sanctis, C.; Genta, F. (Torino); Traina, A. (Palermo);
Scotto, T. (Sassari); Mustacchi, G. (Trieste); Pacini, P. (Firenze); Mesiti, M.;
Delia, P. (Messina); Aldrighetti, D. (Milano); Sassi, M. (Reggio Emilia);
Buccaran, G. (Genova) and other participants in the GROCTA project
High-Dose Medroxyprogesterone Acetate as Adjuvant Hormonotherapy in Early Breast Cancer: 9 Years Results of a Multicenter Randomized Trial 145
Focan, C. (Liège); Beauduin, M. (Haine-St-Paul); Salamon, E. (Namur); De Greve, J.;
De Wasch, G.; Lobelle, J.P. (Brussels); Majois, F. (Haine-St-Paul); Tagnon, A. (Tournai);
Tytgat, J. (Roeselaare); van Belle, S.; Vandervellen, R. (Brussels); Vindevoghel, A.
(Namur) for the Adjuvant Breast Cancer Project - Belgium

The Stockholm Adjuvant Tamoxifen Trial 159
Rutqvist, L.E. (Stockholm)

Ovarian Ablation versus CMF Chemotherapy as Adjuvant Therapy for Breast Cancer 176
Stewart, H.J.; Everington, D. (Edinburgh) on behalf of the Scottish Cancer Trials Breast Group
Endocrine Therapy of Advanced Breast Cancer

Aromatase Inhibitors in Advanced Breast Cancer: The German Results 184
Höffken, K. (Jena)

Antiprogestins - a Novel Mode of Action in Breast Cancer Cells 197
Michna, H.; Gehring, S. (Berlin)

Endocrine Effects of EGIS-5650 (Pamomifene) on Healthy Volunteers: A Phase I/a Study 210
Szamel, I.; Budai, B.; Gyergyay, F.; Erdélyi-Toth, V.; Kralovánszky, J.; Drabant, S.; Csörgö, M.; Zsarnöczay, S. (Budapest)

Contraception and Hormone Replacement Therapy in Cancer Patients

Breast Cancer and Oral Contraceptives 221
Vessey, M. (Oxford)

Contents VI

Hormone Replacement Therapy after Cancer 228
Breckwoldt, M. (Freiburg)

Cancer and Pregnancy 231
Braendle, W. (Hamburg)

Endometrial and Ovarian Cancer

Genetics of Endometrial and Ovarian Cancer 238
Kiechle-Schwarz, M.; Bauknecht, Th. (Freiburg); Chang-Claude, J. (Heidelberg);
Pfleiderer, A. (Freiburg)

CSF-1 - Its Receptor, and Other Oncogenes and Himor Suppressors in Carcinomas of the Ovary, Endometrium, and Breast 245
Kacinski, B.M. (New Haven, CT)

Hormonal Regulation of Human Endometrial Carcinoma 258
Satyaswaroop, P.G. (Hershey, PA)

Cytokines in Ovarian and Endometrial Cancer 269
Malik, S.T.A. (Hamilton, Ontario)

New Developments in the Hormonal Treatment of Endometrial and Ovarian Cancer 277
Emons, G.; Schulz, K.-D. (Marburg)
The 9th International Expert Meeting of the Dr. Mildred Scheel Stiftung was held in Bonn from November 21-24, 1993. Forty-one speakers from ten countries were invited to discuss basic research and clinical studies being conducted in the field of hormone-dependent tumors.

The Dr. Mildred Scheel Stiftung für Krebsforschung, which sponsored the meeting, is a branch of the ‘Deutsche Krebshilfe’, a private foundation financed exclusively by donations from citizens throughout Germany. The efforts of this foundation are directed towards financing long-term projects in cancer research, funding fellowship programs for young German oncologists, providing grants to leading scientists from abroad to promote the exchange of ideas in various fields of oncology, and supporting communication among scientists worldwide by organizing specialized international meetings and workshops.

The 9th International Expert Meeting brought together basic research scientists and clinical experts conducting studies on hormone-dependent tumors to discuss their latest results in seven sessions: the tumor biology of hormone-dependent tumors, breast cancer prevention, adjuvant endocrine therapy of breast cancer, endocrine therapy of advanced breast cancer, contraception and hormone replacement therapy in cancer patients, endometrial and ovarian cancer, and prostate cancer.

This publication presents major papers from the meeting. The first section summarizes our growing knowledge about the basic principles of the hormonal regulation of oncogenesis and the interaction of steroids with their receptors or receptor mutants. The roles of autocrine and paracrine factors and
cytokines in promoting tumor growth are discussed by Leake and Hocken, and by Kalthoff et al. A much-debated issue - identifying those node-negative breast cancer patients with a poorer outlook in order to apply adjuvant therapies - is discussed in five articles in this section. Hormonal treatments of primary and advanced breast cancer and for breast cancer prevention are the main concerns of the following sections. Novel results with pure antiestrogens, aromatase inhibitors and antiprogestins are discussed. Two further sections cover the still controversial questions concerning the role of contraceptives and hormone replacement therapy in inducing or promoting cancer. Leading experts from Oxford and Los Angeles present results from studies with large cohorts. The final sections summarize the state-of-the-art in prognostically based treatment selection and aspects of treatment modalities for endometrial, ovarian and prostate cancers. The selection in this volume will give the reader a flavor of the presentations at this meeting. High-quality papers, energetic discussions and the enthusiasm of all the delegates contributed to the meeting’s success. Work continues on all the fronts discussed, and future developments in the hormonal regulation of cancer cells and in hormone therapy of dependent tumors are awaited with keen interest.

W. Jonat
M. Kaufmann
K. Munk

Foreword X