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Ninth International Conference on Chemical Modifiers of Cancer Treatment

August 22-26, 1995, Christ Church, Oxford, UK

In honour of: Gerald E. Adams
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Stanley Dische

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Message from the Chairmen

These proceedings provide a flavour of the 9th International Conference on Chemical Modifiers of Cancer Treatment. This meeting consisted of 196 oral contributions, including keynote talks, as well as 4 minute/4 slide presentations. This format has been a feature of the more recent Chemical Modifier meetings and the talks were accompanied by extended abstracts given to participants at the time of the meeting.

Presentations were representative of virtually all areas covered in previous Chemical Modifier meetings and indicated that the field is continuing to evolve. This is coming about, in part, by the application of new techniques derived from molecular biology. Thus, redox changes that occur in tumours (which previously have been considered major problems) are now recognised to cause substantial changes in cellular biochemistry. This better understanding of cell and tumour biology will provide new avenues for therapeutic exploitation.

The return of the Chemical Modifiers meeting to the UK coincides with the 'retirement' of three pioneers in the field, namely Professors Ged Adams, Norman Bleehen and Stanley Dische. It was they who organised the first Chemical Modifiers meeting in 1977, the proceedings of which were published in the *British Journal of Cancer* (38, suppl. III). Since then, these 'pioneers' have worked tirelessly in developing many of the concepts derived from, and included in, later meetings. Their work has set the highest standard and it is hoped that these proceedings provide a small tribute to these leaders, whose work one equates with scientific excellence.

Finally, the conference and the publication of these proceedings has been made possible by the tireless efforts of the secretarial team – Vikki Fielden and Jane McCourt at the MRC Harwell and Simone Larché at Stockton Press. Special thanks go to the Medical Research Council and, for generous major sponsorship, to the Cancer Research Campaign and the pharmaceutical company Sanofi Winthrop.

Science and the field of Chemical Modifers moves on. The next meeting is in Florida, USA, in January 1998, chaired by Professor Dietmar Siemann. Enjoy these Proceedings and look forward to the next.

Ian Stratford, Paul Workman and Norman Coleman (Co-Chairmen)



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