

Joint Section on Tumors Newsletter

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Joseph Piepmeier, MD, Editor

Spring 1996

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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS by William F. Chandler, M.D.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Joint Section on Tumors. We have seen growth in many areas of the Joint Section over the past two years, and I look forward to the development of new programs and benefits for our membership over the next few years.

In addition to having Mark Bernstein as the new Secretary-Treasurer, the Joint Section has a number of new chairpersons of the various standing committees. Jack Rock has taken over the Bylaws Committee, Kevin Lillehei heads the Membership Committee, Jim Rutka the Membership Services, and Roberta Glick the Research Committee. Peter Black and Ed Laws co-chair the Awards Committee. Eben Alexander continues as the head of the Education Committee and Joe Piepmeier serves as Editor of the Newsletter. Mark Rosenblum continues to head the Task Force Committee. The committee to plan the annual meeting programs for the next two years consists of Tim Mapstone, Bill Couldwell, Keith Black, and Mitch Berger.

We will be presenting the first Neuro-oncology Research Grant at the AANS annual meeting in Minneapolis. This will be for \$15,000 and will be sponsored by a generous gift from the National Brain Tumor Foundation. This research support will be made available on an annual basis and will be open to any neurosurgeon in North America. We presented the first Young Investigator Award of \$1,000 at the Congress annual meeting last Fall. This award is sponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association and will be given at each AANS and CNS annual meeting. We will continue to give the Preuss Resident Award and the Mahaley Clinical Award at each meeting. The Farber Foundation will also provide a \$15,000 award at each AANS annual meeting.

We will be having a second Neuro-oncology Satellite Symposium in conjunction with the CNS Annual Meeting in Montreal this October. Ray Sawaya will head the Scientific Program Committee. The program will include free papers and posters, as well as invited speakers on the specific topics of radiobiology, cell growth regulation, epidemiology, tumor prognosis, and molecular therapy. Abstracts will be solicited in conjunction with the CNS scientific program.

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*Minutes of the Joint Section on Tumors
Executive Council Meeting
October 19, 1995
San Francisco, California*

The Executive Council of the Joint Section on Tumors was called to order at 6:40 A.M. by Chairman Bill Chandler. Also present were Secretary-Treasurer Mark Bernstein, William Couldwell, Mark Rosenblum, Jim Rutka, Mitchel Berger, Joe Piepmeier, Kevin Lillehei, Peter Black, Eben Alexander, Richard Ellenbogen, and Greg Cairncross. Regrets had been received prior to the meeting from Paul Kornblith, Jack Rock, Dennis Bullard, Leslie Sutton (pediatric liaison), Arnold Menezes (spine liaison), Andrew Kaye, David Thomas, and Armando Basso.

Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Council Meeting held at the AANS in Orlando, Florida on April 24th, 1995, were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report

The financial report was given by Dr. Bernstein. The section continues to be in a stable financial condition with total assets of \$124,122.00. Dr. Bernstein has prepared a tentative budget for the remainder of 1995 and for all of 1996 and this has been submitted to Dr. Friedman in the CNS office. The main anticipated budget item on both the revenue and expense side will relate to the Satellite Symposium to be held in conjunction with the CNS meeting in Montreal in October 1996.

Awards Committee

A summary of all of the tumor awards was prepared and reviewed. There were no items of discussion around the Mahaley Award or Farber Award. Regarding the Preuss Resident Award, two issues arose. The first and foremost is that the Pruess Foundation has not reimbursed the Joint Tumor Section for this award over the past several years, in spite of various attempts to collect. If this situation cannot be rectified, the Preuss name will be removed from the award. Also, the wording of the Preuss Award reads "for excellence in basic neurological research" and it was suggested and

accepted that this be changed to "for excellence in basic neurosurgical research." A new award, The Young Investigator Award, will be given twice yearly in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a faculty member within six years of completion of residency. This award will be sponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association. Finally, the National Brain Tumor Foundation will now provide an annual award at the AANS in the amount of approximately \$15,000.00 to sponsor research. Dr. Chandler had invited Mr. Michael McKechnie, Executive Director, and Sharon Lamb, President, of the National Brain Tumor Foundation and they spoke to the Executive Council. They expressed a strong desire to have this award presented during a plenary session and not during the Joint Tumor Section component of the scientific program. They were given assurances that this would be arranged. They were also thanked for their generosity in supplying this important new award.

Bylaws Committee

Dr. Jack Rock was unable to attend, but he had previously informed Dr. Bernstein that he had no new business to bring up.

Education Committee

Eben Alexander reported on efforts he is making in coordination with industry to develop a CD-ROM format database for references in Neuro-oncology. There is some concern about the cost of this product, and Dr. Alexander will keep the Section informed.

International Committee

No representatives attended and no report was submitted.

Membership Committee

Kevin Lillehei presented the names and CVs of five candidates for active membership, one for international membership, and one for resident membership. All seven were unanimously approved by the group.

Membership Services:

Jim Rutka reported on recent efforts he has made in attempting to secure discounts on certain texts for the membership of the Joint Tumor Section. The book *Brain Tumors* by Drs. Morantz and Walsh will be provided to members of the Joint Tumor Section at a 30% discount (\$150.00 as opposed to 200.00). Dr. Rutka will explore the possibility of obtaining deals with other publishers for our membership and was thanked for his efforts.

Newsletter

Joe Piepmeier is the new editor of *Joint Section on Brain Tumors Newsletter*. Dr. Raymond Sawaya, the outgoing editor, was thanked for his excellent efforts. A discussion ensued of a recurring theme - that is the appropriate publication of proceedings of the Joint Tumor Section Scientific sessions at each Neurosurgical meeting. It is felt by the majority that it would be advantageous to have these proceedings published in a timely fashion in *Journal of Neuro-Oncology* and Dr. Piepmeier will approach Paul Kornblith, the editor of *Journal of Neuro-Oncology* about this issue. Dr. Piepmeier also reported that he is going to make space available in the newsletter for appropriate contributions from clinical coordinators, nursing assistants, and the like.

Nominating Committee

Dr. Black was in attendance, but no new business was raised.

Program Committee

Dr. Mapstone was unable to attend, but Dr. Ellenbogen came and briefly discussed The Joint Section on Tumors session to be held later this day on Tumors and Approaches To The Lateral Ventricle. Dr. Mapstone had previously submitted a report describing the Joint Tumor Section session at the 1996 AANS meeting on

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MAHALEY CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARD PAPER

A Randomized Trial of Interstitial Radiotherapy (IRT) Boost for the Treatment of Newly Diagnosed Malignant Glioma (Glioblastoma Multi- forme, Anaplastic Astrocytoma, Anaplastic Oligoden- droglioma, Malignant Mixed Glioma): BTCG Study 87-01

*R.G. Selker, W.R. Shapiro, S. Green, P. Burger,
J. Van Gilder, S.Saris, M. Malkin, J. Mealy, J. Neal,
J. Robertson, J. Olson*

The purpose of this NIH-supported Brain Tumor Cooperative Group (BTCG) study was to perform a multicenter randomized trial of adults with malignant gliomas to test the efficacy of Interstitial Radiation Therapy (IRT) utilizing temporary “high dose rate” 125I implants. Eligible patients were “newly diagnosed,” > 15 years of age, Karnofsky >50, and harboring supratentorial malignant gliomas that were unifocal, surgically resectable, and did not cross or invade midline structures. All patients (study and control groups) received external RT (6020 cGy to the tumor plus a 3-cm border) and BCNU (200 mg/m² IV Q 8 weeks). Sequential CT/MR scans and survival formed the basis for statistical comparisons. Two hundred and ninety-nine patients were randomized. Results of the Randomized and Valid Study Group patients indicated a significantly extended survival time as a result of the 125I implant ($p < .05$). At the time of “clinical failure,” patients were reoperated. Those demonstrating necrosis as the cause of failure enjoyed significantly longer survivals than a comparable group “failing” as a result of tumor regrowth. As a result of this Randomized BTCG trial, it is concluded that IRT for the treatment of malignant gliomas causes a significant increase in survival over a matched control group. It is believed that these results will be further enhanced by future trials of IRT and currently available adjuvant therapies. [Supported by NIH CA 36047]

PREUSS RESIDENT'S RESEARCH AWARD PAPER

Gene Therapy for Brain Tumors by Autologous Vaccination with Engineered GM-CSF Secreting Tumor Cells

*J.S. Yu, J.A. Burwick, G. Dranoff,
X.O. Breakefield*

We have developed an *ex vivo* gene therapy paradigm for the treatment of brain tumors using granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF). The murine B 16 melanoma and the GL 261 glioma lines were infected with MFG recombinant retrovirus containing the mouse GM-CSFcDNA. The tumor lines were confirmed to secrete GM-CSF by ELISA. Subcutaneous vaccination of syngeneic mice with irradiated GM-CSF-secreting B 16 melanoma cells completely protected animals from subsequent intracranial B 16 inoculation. Histologic evaluation revealed the presence of neutrophils, eosinophils and lymphocytes in the intracerebral inoculation site. In contrast, animals vaccinated with irradiated B 16 cells or not vaccinated succumbed to intracranial tumor within 3 weeks after inoculation. Treatment of established intracranial B 16 melanoma tumors with subcutaneous injection of irradiated GM-CSF secreting B 16 cells increased median survival as compared to injection of irradiated B 16 cells or no treatment. In addition, treatment of intracerebral glioma with subcutaneous vaccination with irradiated, GM-CSF-secreting autologous cells also increased survival compared to controls. Histologic examination revealed a dramatic perivascular lymphocytic infiltrate beginning three days after treatment with GM-CSF transduced cells that was not found in controls. This *ex vivo* approach for brain tumor vaccination deserves further investigation as a potential adjuvant treatment for brain tumors.

JOINT SECTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

by **Nicholas de Tribolet MD**
Lausanne, Suisse

The next European Congress of Neuro-oncology will take place in Wurzburg, Germany October 6-9, 1996. It is organized by Peter Krauseneck.

The Congress Secretariat is:
IMEDEX, Bruistensingel 360, P.O. Box 3283,
5203 DG's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands,
Phone +31-73.6.42.92.85, Fax +31-73.6.41.47.66

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

by **James Rutka, MD, PhD, FRCS**

The Membership Services Committee is pleased to announce substantial discount for a subscription to *Journal of Neuro-Oncology* (arranged by Dr. Peter Black) and for *Brain Tumors*, edited by Drs. Morantz and Walsh. The committee has also approached several other publishers to obtain discounts on their neuro-oncology texts. The committee is currently working on getting discounts on practical courses (e.g., skull base workshops, Midas Rex workshops), and on compiling an up-to-date list of research and clinical neuro-oncology fellowships in North America for our resident members.

RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

by **Ronald E. Warnick, MD**

Ronald E. Warnick, M.D., and Corey Raffel, M.D., have been pursuing a project to ascertain the availability of neuro-oncology research and academic programs across the United States. They will be distributing two different questionnaires. One will be sent to program directors of neurosurgery residency programs requesting information about the neuro-oncology research opportunities for the residents. A second questionnaire will be sent to neurosurgery residents asking about their exposure to neuro-oncological research. The data will be compiled and presented to the Joint Section.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

by **Kevin O. Lillehei, MD**

With the approval of 5 new active members, one international member, and one resident member at the last executive meeting, the current membership of the Joint Section on Brain Tumors rises to 501 Active members, 14 Associate members, 52 International members, 3 Honorary members, 56 Adjunct members, and 7 Resident members. We would like to encourage greater participation by residents in the Joint Section, and this will be a goal of the Membership Committee in 1996. Benefits for resident membership in the Joint Section include: no annual dues, a 20% discount for *Journal of Neuro-Oncology*, discounts on special symposiums organized by the Joint Section, discounts on neuro-oncology books, and discounts on neuro-oncology practical courses and workshops offered in North America.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

by **Roberta Glick, MD**

The Research Committee of the Joint Tumor Section is particularly interested in stimulating neuro-oncology research by keeping neurosurgeons aware of research funding news and funding opportunities, as well as the mechanisms of grantsmanship. New information regarding grants and research is outlined below.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke should collaborate in the support of "up to five new centers of excellence in brain tumor research," the Senate Appropriations Committee urges in report language accompanying the HHS appropriations bill approved Sept. 15. "These centers could better target limited resources to support basic, translational and clinical research to determine the cause, mechanisms of development and better methods of treatment and prevention of primary and secondary brain tumors," the committee maintains. The Senate approved a \$2.19 billion allocation for NCI, below the \$2.25 billion House mark. NINDS received \$665 million in the Senate bill, also less than the \$681 million House mark. "A number of new centers are expected to be able to compete successfully for CCS (cancer center core support grant) support in (FY) 1997. The bypass budget request includes sufficient funds for up to seven centers," NCI states in the bypass document. The number of cancer centers supported by either the CCS (P30) or the cancer center planning grant (P20) mechanism peaked at 68 in the late 1970's and has varied from 54 to 60 since then. The requested funds would increase the estimated 57 centers in FY 1996 to 64 in FY 1997. There are currently 55 cancer centers. (Source: "The Blue Sheet" in ONLINE).

The Research Committee is particularly interested in input from members of the Tumor Section regarding suggestions to enhance research and funding. Please direct suggestions to committee chairperson: Roberta P. Glick, M.D. Division of Neurosurgery, Cook County Hospital, 1835 W. Harrison, Chicago, 60612. (phone: (312) 633-6328; Fax: (312) 633-6494)

Research Opportunities:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services (PHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). Contact: NINDS at 301-496-9248.

American Cancer Society (ACS). Career Development Award. Contact: Ginger Krawiec, Clinical Awards, Department of Detection and Treatment, ACS, 404-329-7612.

The American Association of Neurological Surgery (AANS). The AANS offers a Research Fellowship, a Young Clinical Investigator Award and the W.P. Van Wagenen Senior Neurosurgeon Resident Award. Contact: Ms. Chris Phillips 708-692-9500.

National Science Foundation (NSF). Contact: NSF, Forms and Publications Unit 703-306-1130.

The Brain Tumor Society. Contact: The Brain Tumor Society 617-783-0340.

Cancer Research Foundation of America. Contact: Carolyn R. Aldridge, President, CFA 708-8336-4412.

Cancer Research Fund of Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Foundation. Contact: Suzanne K. McDonough, Administrative Director, 212-532-3888.

Fogarty International Center. Contact: Program Manager, International Research and Awards Branch, Fogarty International Center, NIH. 301-496-1653.

STARTING A SUPPORT GROUP

by
Susan Christopher, RN

Starting a support group for patients with brain tumors and their families and/or caregivers has been a positive and enlightening experience. My goal was to provide a supportive atmosphere in which these patients could share their feelings and experiences with others in similar situations and perhaps gain a little education in the process. While I believe the goal was achieved, I personally came away from the group with a better sense of the needs of neuro-oncology patients. Patients expressed an interest in greater education and resources regarding their illness, improved communication with health care professionals, and a sense of fear and isolation. Information gained from patient support groups can be used to positively shape the way we provide healthcare.

Considerations when starting a support group should include determining a need for the group, targeting the patient group you wish to serve, defining a meeting format, and enlisting the support of other healthcare professionals, such as nursing, social work, and sometimes religious ministries. It also is important to decide the frequency of meetings and the convenience and accessibility of the meeting place for all participants. Once plans have been established, it is important to disseminate the information as widely as possible for greatest patient participation.

The National Brain Tumor Foundation publishes a national listing of all brain tumor support groups. They also provide literature that is invaluable to understanding the support group process, as well as hold training sessions for support group facilitators.

In subsequent issues of the *Newsletter*, I will continue to provide a forum for the patient's perspective of living with a brain tumor. I hope this information is helpful to you. If you have comments regarding these issues, please send them to me:

Susan Christopher, RN, BSN
Neuro-oncology Clinical Coordinator
Section of Neurosurgery
P.O. Box 208039
New Haven, CT 06520-8039
phone (203) 737-1671; fax (203) 785-6916

Joint Leadership Council

by Mark L. Rosenblum, MD

The Joint Tumor Section's effort to involve multiple related disciplines in our activities has evolved over the past 6 months into an effort to develop a Joint Leadership Council of Neuro-Oncology Specialties. We have made overtures to a number of national organizations to appoint representatives to the Council and serve as part of a multidisciplinary body in interactions with the research funding agencies such as NIH and other federal and administrative organizations. The Section on Neuro-Oncology for the American Academy of Neurology will be sending their chairman, Dr. Gregory Cairncross, as their representative. Representatives from other national organizations in the fields of Radiation Oncology, Neuroradiology, Neuropathology, Medical Oncology (through the ASCO), Basic Neuro-Oncology Research (through the AACR) have been invited to join by our President, Dr. William Chandler. We have also encouraged participation of a possible new Society of Neuro-Oncology being developed by Dr. Victor Levin. The Section will keep all members posted of activities in this area.

AANS/CNS JOINT SECTION ON TUMORS May 1, 1996

SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM

Current Management of Pediatric Brain Tumors

Moderator: Timothy B. Mapstone

"PNET and Ependymomas of the Posterior Fossa"

Leland Albright, MD

"Pineal Region Tumors"

Michael Edwards, MD

"Brainstem and Cervico-medullary Tumors"

M.L. (Jack) Walker, MD

"Hypothalamic/Chiasmatic Tumors"

R. Michael Scott, MD

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Pruess Resident Research Award

"Antisense Oligonucleotides to Insulin-like Growth Factor 1 Receptor (IGF-1R) Mediated Systemic Defense Against C6 Rat Glioma Tumors"

Margaret A. Wallenfriedman, MD

Mahaley Clinical Research Award

"High Levels of Speech Recognition with Multichannel Electrical Stimulation of the Human Auditory Brainstem"

William E. Hitselberger, MD

Young Investigator Award

"Expression of Neurotrophin Receptors in Medulloblastoma and the Developing Cerebellum"

Liliana Goumnerova, MD

FARBER LECTURE

"Oligodendroglioma and PCV-from Serendipity to Science"

Gregory Cairncross, MD

SCIENTIFIC SESSION

"Perioperative Complications Associated with Interstitial Brachytherapy"

M. McDaniel, MD

"Enhanced Tumor Uptake of Carboplatin and Survival in Glioma Bearing Rats by Intracarotid Infusion of Bradykinin Analog RMP-7"

K. Matsukado, MD

"Introduction of Human p53 Tumor Suppressor Gene into Glioblastoma Prolongs Survival in an Intracranial Rat Model"

W. Loudon, MD

"Gamma Surgery for Acoustic Neuroma"

D. Prasad, MD

BUSINESS MEETING

NEWS ITEMS



The Joint Section On Tumor Meeting May 1, 1996 AANS Annual Meeting Minneapolis, Minnesota

The 1996 Joint Section on Tumors will meet in association with the annual AANS Meeting. We expect a very exciting and educational experience for us all. For the first time in many years, we will have an update on current management of pediatric brain tumors as our special symposium. The speakers will be Dr. Leland Albright speaking on PNET and ependymomas, Dr. Michael Edwards speaking on pineal region tumors, Dr. Michael Scott speaking on hypothalamic and chiasmatic tumors, and Dr. Jack Walker speaking on brain stem and cervicomedullary tumors. In addition to this update in pediatric neuro-oncology, we will have the special Farber Lecture, The Preuss Resident Award, Mahaley Clinical Research Award, and Young Investigator Award, all of which are reports on very innovative and exciting research in neuro-oncology. This should prove to be a very exciting and informative session, and we look forward to seeing as many members there as possible.

Lucien J. Rubinstein Memorial Award

Medical student Edward R. Flotte is the 1995 recipient of the American Brain Tumor Association/Lucien J. Rubinstein Memorial Award. Mr. Flotte worked under the guidance of G. Yancey Gillespie, Ph.D. at The University of Alabama at Birmingham on "Evaluation of Genetically Engineered Herpes Viruses as Oncolytic Agents for Human Malignant Brain Tumors."

The Association's Medical Student Summer Fellowship program is intended to plant seeds of neuro-oncology interest in bright, motivated students early in their careers.

National Brain Tumor Foundation Conference in San Francisco

The National Brain Tumor Foundation is sponsoring the Fourth National Brain Tumor Conference in San Francisco on March 8-10, 1996. This year's theme, "Building Healing Partnerships," focuses on the relationships between patients and health professionals.

The opening keynote talk, "Health Caring and Equal Partnership", will be presented by David Spiegel, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, author of *Living Beyond Limits*, and one of the first to scientifically demonstrate that group support results in enhanced survival time for cancer patients. Other featured speakers include:

- Mitchel S. Berger, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery, the University of Washington at Seattle
- Philip Gutin, M.D., Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery, the University of California
- Raymond Sawaya, M.D., Chairman, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
- Charles Wilson, M.D., Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Director of the Brain Tumor Research Center, University of California

The two-day conference offers a total of 55 workshops for both patients and health professionals. Workshop topics for professionals range from updates on Boron Neutron Capture Therapy, Tamoxifen, and Gene Therapy to Stress Management, Talking with Patients about Sexuality, and Psychological Preparation for Patient's End Stage.

**For more information and to receive a brochure call:
(415) 255-1297**

1996 Tumor Satellite Symposium

The second Tumor Satellite Symposium of the Joint Section on Tumors is scheduled to take place in conjunction with the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting in Montreal, Canada, on October 3rd and 4th, 1996. The conference chairmen are Drs. Bill Chandler and Peter Black, and the scientific program chairman is Dr. Raymond Sawaya.

Four general topics will be covered. These include: epidemiology, radiobiology, cell cycle control, and molecular therapy. In addition, there will be three open scientific sessions during which competitively-selected abstracts will be presented.

The design of this symposium was developed with input from Dr. Mitch Berger, who successfully managed the first tumor symposium. A strong participation by the neurosurgical community was evident and resulted in the exposure of advanced research in brain tumors. A similar experience is anticipated this time, and, in addition, extra efforts are being made to encourage the participation of all related disciplines.

A detailed outline of the symposium will be published in the upcoming newsletter. For any questions concerning this program, please contact:

Dr. Raymond Sawaya
Phone: (713) 792-2400
Fax: (713) 794-4950
e-mail:

raymond_sawaya@qksurg.mda.uth.tmc.edu.

Book Discount

Members of the Joint Section on Tumors receive an exclusive 30% DISCOUNT when purchasing a copy of **BRAIN TUMORS: A COMPREHENSIVE TEXT** edited by Robert A. Morantz and John W. Walsh. A copy of this book can be obtained for \$150.00 through the publisher MARCEL DEKKER, INC. Call toll-free 1-800-228-1160.

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

Summary of Results of the Phase I Trial of the Targeted Toxin Tf-CRM 107 for Recurrent Malignant Brain Tumors

*Douglas W. Laske, Richard J. Youle, Orhan Ilercil
David Katz, Hetty L. DeVroom, Edward H. Oldfield*

We conducted a dose-escalation trial of regional therapy of recurrent malignant brain tumors with the targeted protein toxin transferrin-CRM 107, a conjugate of human transferrin (Tf) and diphtheria toxin with a point mutation (CRM 107) that eliminates nonspecific bonding. Tf-CRM 107 binds to the transferrin receptor, which is highly expressed by tumor but not by brain. Twenty-one patients (12 GBM, 6 AA, 1AO, 2 metastatic lung Ca) with tumor progression (confirmed by biopsy) despite standard therapy (surgery, radiation, ± chemotherapy) were treated (51 treatments). Tf-CRM107 was infused continuously over 2-14 days via stereotactically placed intratumoral catheters. Total dose per treatment increased from 0.5 to 128 ug. Sixteen patients received multiple treatments separated by 4-6 weeks. Dose-limiting toxicity was local peritumoral injury, possibly mediated by endothelial cell Tf receptors, and the maximum tolerated dose at a fixed volume of infusion of 40 ml was 26.4 ug. Systemic toxicity was minor with mild transient elevations of serum transaminases (ALT,AST) and mild hypoalbuminemia occurring in the majority of patients. Significant reduction in tumor size on MRI (≥ 50 decrease in volume) occurred in 9 of 18 evaluable patients. Median survival for malignant glioma patients in the trial was 36 weeks for nonresponders and 68+ weeks for responders. Regional therapy with Tf-CRM107 effects tumor responses, without severe neurologic or systemic toxicity, in patients with malignant brain tumors refractory to conventional therapy. A dose for a Phase II study has been identified.

Neuro-oncology Research Award

The Joint Section on Tumors proudly announces that the First Neuro-oncology Research Award sponsored by the National Brain Tumor Foundation will be presented at the AANS meeting in Minneapolis. The annual award of \$15,000 is open to any neurosurgeon in North America.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

National Brain Tumor Foundation Conference

March 8–10, 1996
San Francisco, CA
Contact: 800-934-CURE

International Photodynamic Association

March 11, 1996
Melbourne, Australia
Contact: Andrew Kaye, MD FRACS
Post Office
The Royal Melbourne Hospital
Victoria 3050
AUSTRALIA
Phone: (03)-342-7000
Fax: (03)-342-7802

European Congress of Neuro-oncology

October 6–9, 1996
Wurzburg, Germany
Contact: The Congress Secretariat
IMEDEX, Bruistensingel 360, P.O. Box 3283,
5203 DG's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands,
Phone +31-73.6.42.92.85, Fax +31-73.6.41.47.66

Chairman's Report (con't)

Jack Rock and Mark Bernstein continue to work with the AANS/CNS Guidelines Committee to develop detailed and thoughtful guidelines for low grade gliomas.

The Executive Council met with Greg Cairncross, the chairman of the newly formed neuro-oncology section of the American Academy of Neurology, in an effort to improve multidisciplinary communication regarding important issues in neuro-oncology. We are in the process of identifying and contacting leaders in radiation oncology, neuropathology, neuroradiology, medical oncology and basic neuroscience in an effort to form a Council of Neuro-oncology Leadership to discuss areas of mutual interest.

We are always looking for new individuals to be involved in the Joint Section on Tumors. If you have a particular area of interest or a new idea for the Joint Section please let me know or contact one of the committee chairman.

Minutes of Joint Section (con't)

"Current Management of Pediatric Tumors". Individuals responsible for organization of future Joint Tumor Section sessions include Bill Couldwell (1996 CNS), Mitch Berger (1997 AANS), and Keith Black (1997 CNS).

Research Committee

Dr. Roberta Glick was not in attendance and no report was submitted.

Task Forces

1. Guidelines

Dr. Bernstein reported that the Low Grade Glioma Guidelines Committee has been meeting for approximately eighteen months under the leadership of Dr. Ed Shaw with neurosurgical input from Drs. Bernstein, Rock and Haines. The literature has been critically reviewed and, hopefully, a first draft of the guidelines will be available within the next several months. Dr. Bernstein attended a meeting of the Guidelines Committee the day before and reported briefly. The Head Injury Guidelines supported by the Brain Trauma Foundation at a cost of approximately \$300,000 are complete and are considered an excellent document. There have been significant problems in getting them published in that the *Journal of Neurosurgery* has refused to do so, partly related to copyright issues. This is a complex issue that Dr. Florin, Chairman of the Guidelines and Outcomes Committee, plans to take forward and try to resolve.

2. Multidisciplinary Neuro-oncology Effort

Dr. Greg Cairncross was an invited guest of the Joint Tumor Section in his role as the head of a newly-formed section on neuro-oncology of The American Academy of Neurology. The previous day, Drs. Cairncross, Chandler, Rosenblum, Bernstein, and Cavenee (representing the AACR) met to discuss potential multidisciplinary efforts. It is considered very worthwhile to form a council of leaders of various subspecialty neuro-oncology organizations (e.g., Joint Section on Tumors, The Joint Section on Neuro-oncology of the AAN, and others which will hopefully evolve). Dr. Chandler will approach the radiation oncology community to see if they are interested

in this concept. Dr. Cavenee will arrange for representation from AACR. Following this, there was a brief discussion of the recently formed North American Society of Neuro-oncology and its potential relationships with the Joint Tumor Section and with this newly envisioned council of neuro-oncology leadership.

1996 Satellite Symposium

The Joint Section will sponsor a Satellite Symposium to be held in conjunction with the CNS meeting in Montreal in October 1996. The General Chairmen will be Drs. Chandler and Black; Dr. Sawaya will be responsible for the scientific program, and Drs. Bernstein and Rutka for financial and physical arrangements. All of the above stated individuals along with Mitch Berger (the overall CNS Scientific Program Chairman for 1996) met the previous day and arrived at a number of topics to be included in this meeting-molecular therapy, radiation injury, prognosticators, epidemiology, and signal transduction/cell cycle. An effort will be made to have the abstracts published in the *Journal of Neuro-oncology*.

The 1997 AACR Satellite Symposium

Following an initial discussion between Dr. Cavenee and Dr. Peter Black, The Joint Tumor Section will co-sponsor a Satellite Symposium on neuro-oncology in association with the AACR meeting either in late 1997 or early 1998. There has been some confusion lately about the potential role of the newly-formed North American Society of Neuro-oncology in co-sponsorship of this meeting but it was made perfectly clear that The Joint Tumor Section will be co-sponsoring this meeting with the AACR. More specific details of the Satellite Symposium are not available at this time.

Central Brain Tumor Registry

Dr. Chandler had invited representatives of the CBTR, and in attendance today was Carol Kruchko, Chairman of the Board of The Central Brain Tumor Registry. Ms. Kruchko briefly presented a package of information that her non-profit agency has been working on. There are currently sixteen state registries on board. The

Executive Council thanked Ms. Kruchko for her efforts and will be pleased to help her in any way we are able.

CPT Codes

Dr. Richard Roski, AANS representative to the CPT Committee, has requested all sections to provide representatives to work with Dr. Roski in identifying areas where CPT codes need to be either developed or altered. Dr. Bill Couldwell volunteered to help in this regard.

Neurosurgery On-Call

The Neurosurgery On-call electronic information project is well under way and, again, Dr. Richard Toselli, editor of Neurosurgery On-call has requested input from our section. Drs. Jim Rutka and Richard Ellenbogen volunteered to contribute to this initiative on behalf of our section.

JCSNS Representative

Dr. Sidney Tolchin, President of the AANS, has requested representatives, that is delegates to the JCSNS to be provided by each of the sections. Dr. Mitch Berger volunteered to fulfill this role on behalf of The Joint Section on Tumors.

Tumor Abstract Reviews

Dr. Chandler thanked all those who recently graded tumor abstracts for both the current CNS meeting and the upcoming AANS scientific meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

News items may be mailed to:
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Yale University School of
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P. O. Box 208039
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(203)785-6916 fax

Joseph Piepmeier, MD, thanks Susan Christopher RN, BSN, for her administrative assistance and B. Lee Ligon, PhD, for editing and formatting the *Newsletter*.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE JOINT SECTION ON TUMORS
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS
CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS**

NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE: (_____) _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE: (_____) _____

I wish to apply for:

Active Membership _____

International Membership _____

Resident Membership _____ (Please have chairman forward confirmation of your resident status)

Program _____

Chairman _____

Year Anticipate Completion _____

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IN:

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons _____ No _____ Yes

_____ Active _____ Active (Provisional) _____ Associate

_____ Candidate _____ Active (Foreign) _____ Honorary

_____ Lifetime _____ Corresponding

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons _____ No _____ Yes

_____ Active _____ International _____ Senior

_____ Resident _____ Honorary

Membership in other neurological societies? _____

Other societies? _____

Are you currently involved in active brain tumor research?

Clinical: _____ No _____ Yes Basic: _____ No _____ Yes

Special areas of interest: _____

Suggestions on Section activities that would be of benefit to you: _____

Please enclose a copy of your curriculum vitae.

Please return to:

Kevin O. Lillehei, M.D., Membership Chairman
University of Colorado Health Center
4200 East 9th Avenue, Campus #C-307
Denver, Colorado 80262

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of the AANS/CNS
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