

## CONFERENCE REPORT

## THE FIRST CONFERENCE "UKRAINIAN ONCOGENETICS IN XXI CENTURY"

The III Conference "Problems of Oncogenetics: scientific and applied aspects" was held in Kyiv, Ukraine, on May 23–24, 2002. The conference was organized by R.E. Kavetsky Institute of Experimental Pathology, Oncology and Radiobiology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine with the support of beneficial fund "Unity against Cancer" and Saint Vladimir International Anticancer Fund.

The conference was devoted to the memory of professor K.P. Ganina — the founder of oncogenetic studies in Ukraine carried out in R.E. Kavetsky Institute of NAS of Ukraine beginning from 70–th years of the last century. Two scientific–practical Conferences on Oncogenetics were held in 1974 and 1983 in Ukraine. The Conference–2002 summarized the achievements in oncogenetic research at the last decade of XX century.

Conference program included the most perspective questions concerning fundamental and clinical oncogenetics — determination of genetic and molecular mechanisms of malignant growth, the role of hereditary factors in cancer, the influence of ecological factors on carcinogenesis, the application of scientific achievements in practical oncology, an improvement of early diagnosis, cancer prophylaxis and therapy, the use of vaccination, bioethics in medicine and oncology.

195 scientists, experienced in cytogenetics, molecular biology and genetics, physicians–oncologists from Ukrainian clinics and scientists from Russia take part in the Conference. Conference program included 44 oral and 24 postal presentations.

The plenary session was opened by the report concerning the contribution of prof. K.P. Ganina in the creation and development of oncogenetic research in Ukraine (L.A. Naleskina). Then the reports devoted to prophylaxis of cancer (V.F. Moskalenko, N.G. Goyda; A.M. Serdyuk et al.), the achievements and perspectives of oncogenetics (V.F. Chekhun, L.Z. Polishchuk), bioethics problems in oncogenetics (I.R. Barilyak), the research of cellular catabolism and functioning (V.A. Kordium) were presented.

The special attention was paid to the cooperative relations of oncogenes in cell malignization (Yu.A. Zozulya et al.; I.A. Smirnova et al.), DNA–methylation in the control of gene expression, search of cancer–specific genes, biomolecular markers of malignization, genetic markers of acute leukemia in pediatric patients (G.R. Akopyan; V.G. Bebesko et al.; G.D. Telegeev et al.), the determination of factors, influencing oncogene expression and DNA damage (Ya.A. Pokholenko; L.L. Lukash et al.; P.M. Mikhailenko et al.; E.P. Sidorik, A.P. Burlaka).

The lectures on applied oncogenetics were devoted to the perspectives of the use of new genetic markers in early diagnosis of tumors (L.G. Buchinska; V.N. Zaporozhan et al.), oncogenetic approaches in the therapy of cancer patients (V.A. Shlyahovenko), prophylaxis of cancer (N.I. Kitsera). The problems of biomedical ethics were discussed, too (P.N. Vitte).

The scientists — participants of the conference concluded:

1. To create the complex scientific program aimed on the study of genetic diseases associated with the risk of cancer and on the development of their early diagnosis.

2. To pay special attention to joint researches in genetics and epidemiology, and genetics and ecology aimed on the evaluation of risk criteria of anthropogenic factors.

3. To create oncogenetic consultation services in oncological hospitals and family cancer–registers.

4. To take to account the principles of bioethics in oncological research and follow–up studies of cancer patients.

It was decided to hold the IV<sup>th</sup> Conference on Oncogenetics in the next 3–4 years.

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