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The decline of the prevalence of cancers during organism senescence

Most of the scientific literature reports that aging favors the development of cancers. Each type of cancer, however, initiates and evolves differently and their natural history can start way back at earlier ages before their clinical manifestations. The incidence of cancers is spread through the human life span; it is the result of pre and post-natal aggressions, individual susceptibility and developmental changes that evolve continuously from the beginning till the end. Finally during human senescence the incidence declines for all cancers. Frequently, the progression of cancer is also slow in the old patients. There are several possible explanations for this decline. It is time to ask why some tumors are characteristic of the young, others of maturity, some at the time of the decline of reproductive period and finally why the incidence of cancers declines late during senescence of the human organism. These questions should be answered before the origin of cancers can be understood.

Biography

Alvaro Macieira-Coelho is a Research Director at the French National Institute of Health. He has received his MD from the University of Lisbon, Portugal and a PhD from the University of Uppsala Sweden. He did Internship at the University Hospital in Lisbon and was a Research Associate at the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia, USA and at the Department of Cell Biology of the University of Uppsala, Sweden. He became the Head of the Department of Cell Pathology at the Cancer Institute in Villejuif, France and was a Visiting Professor at the University of Linköping, Sweden. He has published 150 papers in professional journals and 9 books on cancer and aging. He has received the following awards: Fritz Verzar Prize (University of Vienna, Austria), "Seeds of Science", Career Prize (Lisbon, Portugal), Dr. Honoris Causa (University of Linköping, Sweden), Johananof International Visiting Professor (Institute Mario Negri, Milano, Italy).

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