news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS
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DALLAS--Nine research projects aimed at better understanding, detection and treatment of cancer have been approved for fellowship funding by the American Cancer Society at The University of Texas Health Science Center and Baylor University Medical Center.

The $32,400 in grants will allow young investigators to pursue their experiments during one-year terms beginning June 1.

The cancer society already supports a number of senior researchers at both institutions.

The fellowships, for $3,600 each, are awarded to:

Dr. Daniel M. Dansby of the Otolaryngology Division of UTHSC will study the feasibility of detecting small cancers in the lining of the throat and windpipe using a stain called Toluidine Blue. The stain will be sprayed in aerosol or mist form to pick up small cancers in the voice box, windpipe and swallowing tube which might be overlooked otherwise.

Dr. James Bernhardt Goodman of Baylor's Pathology Department will study the progression of normal cervical cells into cancerous cells. He will look at the odd or atypical cells involved and subject them to immunity reactions.

If successful, the method might be helpful to young women who have suspicious conditions but who want to delay surgery in order to have children.

Dr. Willis Manford Gooch III of the UTHSC Pathology Department will evaluate the association of a virus (herpesvirus, Type 2) with abnormal uterine cervical epithelium or lining. The question is whether the virus is present from the beginning of cervical disease or simply invades already diseased tissue.

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first add cancer

Dr. Lloyd W. Kitchens of Baylor's Internal Medicine Department will investigate the possiblilty of a test for antibodies to breast cancer, to predict whether a patient will have a benign or malignant tumor. With the knowledge that some persons are able to "reject" their tumors, the search for immunity capabilities might yield a better early indicator for treatment.

Dr. David Hablit of the UTHSC Pathology Department, will study possibility of developing an enzyme test to detect liver involvement with cancer. Present methods of detecting a spreading cancer which goes to the liver are not reliable. Dr. Hablit will use a compound known as Gamma Glutamyl Transpeptidase to indicate liver involvement with cancer which, in turn, might provide the physician added evidence for course of treatment of malignant tumors.

Dr. Robert Lloyd White II of Baylor's Pathology Department will attempt to develop a mass screening method to study the thousands of tumors removed at surgery and by autopsies. He will use special stains for examination with light, electron and other special microscopes in the hope of revealing previously inaccessible information about cause, nature and effects of cancer.

Dr. A. Eugene Jackson Jr. of UTHSC's Radiology Department will study various methods of radiation treatment for lung cancer to determine the comparative effectiveness and toxicity of the methods. He will design an experiment with test tube and animal tumors, determine the normal course of the malignancies and then see what effects are had with varying doses and times of radiation.

Dr. John Burr Miller of the UTHSC Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, will conduct a two-part study of young women with suspicious Pap smears. The first will study the natural course of abnormal uterine cervical growths utilizing the patient population of Parkland Memorial Hospital's Dysplasia Clinic and the second will look at herpesvirus Type 2 and its relation to those patients.

Dr. C. Robert Stanhope, also of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UTHSC, will try for an early diagnosis of carcinoma of the ovary, a disease whose symptoms appear late. He will use a radioisotope test to detect the destruction of tumor cells in the laboratory by white blood cells (lymphocytes) from patients who already have cancer. Lymphocytes from healthy patients do not have this ability.

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