

ARMED FORCES RADIOBIOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Defense Nuclear Agency
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting, Armed Forces
Radiobiology Research Institute Board of Governors,
11 January 1977

The Board of Governors

Lt Gen Warren D. Johnson, USAF	Director, Defense Nuclear Agency, Chairman, Board of Governors
VADM Willard P. Arentzen, MC, USN	Surgeon General of the Navy
LTG Richard R. Taylor, MC, USA	Surgeon General of the Army
Brig Gen Ernest J. Clark, USAF, MC	Director, Professional Services, Office of the Surgeon General, United States Air Force

Guests

Dr. J. P. Sanford	Dean of the Medical School, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
Mr. Peter H. Haas	Deputy Director for Science and Technology, Defense Nuclear Agency
Dr. Marvin C. Atkins	Scientific Assistant to the Deputy Director, Science and Technology, Defense Nuclear Agency

AFRRI ATTENDEES

COL LaWayne R. Stromberg, MC, USA	Director
Col Darrell W. McIndoe, USAF, MC	Deputy Director
Lt Col Edwin T. Still, USAF, VC	Research Program Coordinator
LTC Hal F. Stolz, VC, USA	Chairman, Behavioral Sciences Department

COL Stromberg (cont.)

4. PATIENT RADIATION

"Since the presentation at the last BOG meeting, the tissue bank of the NIMC and the National Cancer Institute's programs have ended, and we are not receiving requests for treatment of patients with whole body radiation from these two institutions. It is felt that there will be no radiations until these two institutions have reviewed their protocols in detail. Under these circumstances, before approval for any radiation will be given, the protocols will be presented to the Board of Governors. Several months ago however, we did receive an emergency request from Albany, New York to irradiate a patient in the cancer program there. This was done, the patient did very well, but succumbed to graft vs host disease at about 5 months post treatment.

"The graft vs host disease problem is a critical one in any whole body radiation injury and has been the subject of investigative work here at the AFRI for many years. In recent work done by the Department of Experimental Hematology, a small breakthrough has occurred in that we've been able to identify a factor that seems to differentiate cells which cause graft vs host disease from those which do not after transplantation. This is based upon the adherence or non-adherence of these cells to glass beads. It is too early to know if this will constitute a major contribution to the management of this serious problem. Since the phenomenon has been observed in rodents only, considerable work remains before this can be looked upon as a basis for modifying transplantation techniques in patients.

