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Responsible Investigators: J. G. Moore, M.D., & D. G. Merton, M.D.
University Department: Obstetrics & Gynecology
Financial Support 1954-55: UC \$ 4,000.00; PHS \$10,000.00.

Title of Project: a) Growth Characteristics in Tissue Culture of Carcinoma of the Endometrium Before and After Intrauterine Radium Treatment.

This project was initiated in September of 1954 upon opening the departmental laboratory area in the new Medical Center Building. In the less than two month period intervening, most of our efforts have been directed toward setting up the laboratory, standardizing the solutions, and investigating the growth potentials in tissue culture of normal endometrium. To date, samples of 5 human endometria have been grown in (short term) tissue culture experiments. The type and rate of growth has been observed and photographed in both the unstained and stained preparations. One sample of endometrial carcinoma has been grown in tissue culture before and after radiation.

To date, observations on growing endometrium have not been sufficient to justify any definite statements other than that normal adult human endometrium may be grown with ease and extensively in vitro. Observations as to growth potential of endometrium at various phases of the menstrual

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are under way at present. With only one observed case, so far, no comment can be made with reference to growth patterns in vitro of endometrial malignancies.

Title of Project: b) Growth Characteristics in Tissue Culture of Questionably Malignant Lesions of the Uterine Cervix.

In the past year observations on the growth characteristics of cervical epithelia of 40 additional cervixes: 16 from patients with cervical carcinoma, 8 from patients with normal cervixes, 8 from pregnant patients with normal cervixes, and 8 from patients with controversial lesions of the cervix. The latter group of patients were those originally diagnosed as having lesions similar to carcinoma in situ, but which lesions were, after thorough study, finally diagnosed as (a) atypical squamous hyperplasia, (b) carcinoma in situ, or (c) minimally invasive carcinoma.

Our observations to date indicate that: (a) Normal cervical epithelium grows with difficulty and not extensively in tissue culture, (b) pregnant cervical epithelium grows only with equal difficulty as non-pregnant adult cervix, (c) epidermoid cervical carcinoma grows extensively and with ease (80% of cases) in tissue culture, (d) carcinoma in situ and minimally invasive epidermoid carcinoma of the cervix grow with equal vigor as frankly invasive carcinoma.

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gradient of growth response according to clinical extent
 the cancer or degree of differentiation of the cancer
 was evident in our observations.

Publications:

Paper on "Growth Characteristics in Tissue Culture of
 Normal Endometrium" has been submitted for presentation at
 the Western Section Meeting of the American Federation for
 Clinical Research, January 27, 1955.

Paper on "Growth Characteristics in Tissue Culture of
 Controversial Lesions of the Uterine Cervix" was presented
 before the Pacific Coast Obstetrical and Gynecological
 Society on October 27, 1954. This paper was submitted by
 the Society for publication in the Western Journal of
 Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics.