

**Proceedings of the
Second International Congress
on Cancer Pain**

Advances in Pain Research and Therapy

Volume 16

**Proceedings of the Second International
Congress on Cancer Pain**

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Raven Press  **New York**

Raven Press, Ltd., 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036

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Made in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

International Congress on Cancer Pain (2nd : 1988 : Rye, N.Y.)

Proceedings of the Second International Congress on Cancer Pain /
editors, Kathleen M. Foley, John J. Bonica, Vittorio Ventafridda ;
associate editor, Mary V. Callaway.

p. cm. — (Advances in pain research and therapy ; v. 16)

Held July 14-17, 1988 in Rye, N.Y.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0-88167-594-6

I. Cancer pain—Congresses. I. Foley, Kathleen M., 1944—

II. Bonica, John J., 1917— III. Ventafridda, Vittorio.

IV. Title. V. Series.

[DNLM: 1. Neoplasms—therapy—congresses. 2. Pain—therapy—
congresses. W1 AD706 v. 16 / QZ 266 I5835p 1988]

RC262.I536 1988

616.99'4—dc20

DNLM/DLC

for Library of Congress

89-70121

CIP

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Preface

This volume contains the scientific papers presented at the Second International Congress on Cancer Pain, held on July 14-17, 1988 in Rye, New York. The Congress was sponsored by the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, the Cancer Unit of the World Health Organization, and the U.S. Cancer Pain Relief Committee and was attended by more than 600 health care professionals from 26 countries.

Ten years previously, the first congress, entitled "International Symposium on Pain of Advanced Cancer," was held in Venice, Italy, on May 24-27, 1978. It was organized by Drs. John Bonica and Vittorio Ventafridda through the generous support of the Floriani Foundation. The proceedings were published in Volume 2 of this series and have served as the leading text in the field of cancer pain treatment for the past 10 years. The second Congress witnessed the integration of issues in pain management, symptom control, and palliative care with discussions of drug regulatory and societal issues impeding cancer pain therapy nationally and internationally. The general consensus of the meeting was that there is a need to implement national health policies for the care of the cancer patient with pain as advocated by the World Health Organization (WHO) Cancer Pain Relief Program.

The primary goals of the Congress were to provide an overview of recent advances in the field of pain and cancer, to act as an educational resource for a multidisciplinary approach to cancer pain management, and to serve as a forum for international cooperation to promote the WHO Cancer Pain Relief Program. These objectives were achieved, and the results are presented in this monograph.

The first part of the volume presents a discussion of the importance and magnitude of cancer pain as a serious national and world health problem and provides a historical overview of the development of initiatives in the treatment of cancer pain.

Next, the focus is on the advances in medical, surgical, and radiation oncology. Issues on the measurement of pain and quality of life are presented, and special attention is directed to pain management in children and the need for continuity of care for cancer pain patients.

The book then includes discussions of pharmacologic, anesthetic, neurosurgical, and behavioral approaches currently in practice. The section on specific issues in cancer pain covers the spectrum of control of major symptoms, to pain in patients with AIDS, to the problem of suicide in patients with uncontrolled pain.

The last part is devoted to initiatives in cancer pain with emphasis on the WHO Cancer Pain Relief Program in developed and developing countries as well as state initiatives such as the Wisconsin Cancer Pain Initiative. The national and international implications of drug availability and drug regulations on the successful implementation of cancer pain management complete this volume.

This book is a valuable resource for all clinicians treating cancer patients and for researchers developing new modalities for the control of intractable pain.

Kathleen M. Foley
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Acknowledgments

The development and running of such a large, comprehensive, scientific program and the highly successful outcome of the symposium were made possible only by the contributions of many individuals to whom we wish to acknowledge our indebtedness.

The editors wish to express their appreciation to the many individuals, professional organizations, and corporations who made this meeting possible. Special thanks to the World Health Organization for their co-sponsorship of the Congress and for financial support to individual participants from developing countries who without their assistance would not have been able to attend. Sincere appreciation goes to Jan Stjernsward, Chief, and Noreen Teoh, Technical Officer, of the Cancer Unit of the World Health Organization, for their individual contributions to the planning, development, and organization of the meeting. Special thanks also go to the members of the U.S. Cancer Pain Relief Committee: Robert Angarola, Charles Cleeland, George Heidrich, Mitchell Max, and Russell Portenoy for their co-sponsorship of the Congress and their contributions to program development. Particular appreciation is extended to Russell Portenoy and George Heidrich, Editors, and Sophie Colleau, Managing Editor of the *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management* for the publication of the Congress program and abstracts in vol. 3, no. 3 in 1988.

The editors wish to express their warmest appreciation to the following companies whose corporate support made this extraordinary meeting possible.

To Our Benefactors

At the Purdue Frederick Company, we wish to express particular gratitude to Raymond and Richard Sackler, Paul Goldenheim, and Robert Kaiko who participated and contributed every step of the way from initial program conception and development to providing the financial foundation for the meeting.

At Knoll Pharmaceuticals, we wish to express our appreciation to Robert Reder and Carl Zolna for their financial support and encouragement.

To Our Patrons

At Roxane Laboratories, the editors wish to thank Gerald Wojta and Kirk Shepard for their participation and support. We would particularly like to

thank them for providing copies of the WHO Cancer Pain Relief publication to the participants of the Congress at no cost.

We also wish to express our deepest appreciation to Pharmacia Deltec, Inc., for their financial support and participation in this endeavor.

To Our Sponsors

To Timothy Russell at McNeil Pharmaceutical and Robert Hall at Norwich Eaton Pharmaceuticals, we wish to express our thanks for their support.

We wish to express our sincerest thanks to our supporters: Schering Corporation, The Upjohn Company, Mallinckrodt, Inc., E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Support Systems International, Inc., Janssen Pharmaceutica, Reckitt and Colman Pharmaceutical Division, Hoffman-La Roche, Inc., Eli Lilly and Company, and the Hemingway Fund for Pain Research.

Special appreciation to the American Medical Association and the International Pain Foundation must be acknowledged for providing educational grants that supported the expenses of individuals coming from developing countries and to the Eastern Pain Chapter of the American Pain Society, which supported the presentation of the John J. Bonica Lecture Award.

This critical international exchange took place because of the individual and corporate commitment of our benefactors, patrons, sponsors, supporters, and friends to improving the quality of life of our patients with pain and cancer. With their assistance and support, we all moved a little closer to being able to provide improved cancer pain management to all patients throughout the world.

The endorsement of the following professional organizations helped to assure the success of the symposium, and for this, the editors thank them most sincerely: American Cancer Society, Inc., American College of Physicians, American Medical Association, American Pain Society, Eastern Pain Society, European School of Oncology, Floriani Foundation, International Association for the Study of Pain, International Pain Foundation, International School for Cancer Care, International Psycho-Oncology Society, National Cancer Institute of Milan, and the National Hospice Organization.

We also wish to express great appreciation and indebtedness to the following individuals for their time and effort in taking care of the hundreds of details required for the arrangements of the facilities needed for the scientific program. These individuals made it possible for us to run the program on time and without mishap and deserve special recognition for their contributions: Roberto Fuenmayor and Leslie Dunham of the Continuing Medical Education Office, and, particularly, Marilyn Herleth, David Foley, Helen

Miller, Barbara Inturrisi, Charlene Landis, and Andie Gottsagen of the Pain Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

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