

16th GLOBAL ANNUAL ONCOLOGISTS MEETING

April 24-25, 2017 Dubai, UAE



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The decline of the incidence 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 to the end. Finally during human senescence the incidence declines for all cancers. Frequently the progression of cancers is also slower in the old. There are several possible explanations for this decline. It is time to ask why some tumors are characteristic of the young, others of maturity, others of the time of the decline of the 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 an MD from University of Lisbon, Portugal and a PhD from the University of Uppsala Sweden. He has obtained an 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 Head of the Department of Cell Pathology at the Cancer Institute in Villejuif (France) and was a Visiting Professor at the University of Linkoping (Sweden). He has published 150 papers in professional journals and 9 books on cancer and aging. He has received many awards and honors.

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