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I was introduced to cancer by my father in my childhood. My father was a professor of surgery. I was interested and puzzled. I was repeatedly questioning the cause of cancer. As I planned, I went through formal medical training, including graduate work in surgery and gynecology. During this period, I met actual cancer patients and encountered pathologic specimens of cancer. I became more interested in the etiology of cancer and decided to change my medical career from surgery to basic medical problems – the cause of cancer. I was forming my belief that cancer was caused by microorganisms, especially by viruses. In order to further explore this avenue, I enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania, the Graduate School of Medicine. In the department of Medical Microbiology of the University, I took the course leading to a graduate degree, participating in laboratory research work in bacterial viruses – bacteriophage. This was not directly connected to the cancer problem but indirectly helped my belief in virus role in cancer. I became more and more convinced of the role of viruses in cancer. During this period I joined AACR.

I had an interim period of activity in industrial medical microbiology and clinical medical practice. I had been continuously believing in the role of virus in cancer and reached a bald hypothesis: “Every primary cancer is cause by a pure animated entity, a virus.”

It is still a hypothesis at this time. I or somebody has to prove it:

1. Isolate a pure species of virus from each cancer.
2. Purify the isolated material.
3. Do a morphological study by electronmicroscopy for a culture of the presumed virus in pure viral cultures.
4. Reproduce the same type of cancer by inoculating with the culture.

Basically, this process will meet Koch’s Postulate. Regarding the complex nature of viruses, dealing with viruses experimentally is not an easy task. That’s why the viruses have been hiding for such a long time from explorers.

I have been scrutinizing so called etiology of cancers, for instance, lung cancer and smoking; asbestos and mesothelioma, various suggestions relating to breast cancer, eating habits and GI cancers, straight forward unknown etiology of liver, pancreas, testicular and ovarian cancers.

Current Knowledge regarding Genital Papilloma virus and cervical cancer and current active pharmaceutical effort to produce prostate cancer vaccines using so called antigen-presenting cells(?), are interesting beginnings. My formal medical activity ended with retirement but my lifelong dream of finding the etiology of every cancer is still alive with me. Only, I regret I cannot participate in the enormous task of solving them.