

was concluded that growth of immunogenic tumors occurs in the syngeneic host because of antibody-mediated immunologic enhancement.

For anti-tumor "killer cells" to be used therapeutically or as a vector in gene therapy,⁶ it is essential to know if they will localize in the tumor mass. This may be precluded by antibody coating of the tumor mass, thus converting nonself to self. To our knowledge, only these four articles contain the relevant information. No appropriate terms exist in MedLine⁵ to describe specifically the main concepts of the four publications in question. This indexing peculiarity has been overlooked by scientists who study neoplasms. The immunologic phenomena observed in both transplant and cancer research could be called killer cell resistance, antibody mediated. The lack of effectiveness of current immunotherapeutic approaches are predicted by the oncotope hypothesis.⁷ (Oncotopes are epitopes found on gene products unique to tumors, which stimulate a B-cell and a T-cell response during progressive tumor growth in the syngeneic or autochthonous host). We have brought these matters to the attention of MEDLARS Management at the National Library of Medicine.

References

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Terminology evolution

To the editor:

It is a small point, but could people writing about what David Stone calls "molecular diversity" stop calling the process of selecting random collections of combinatorially synthesized molecules "molecular evolution?" "Molecular evolution" means the change in the molecular structure of organisms (as opposed to their bone structure) as they evolve, and has been used since the early 1960s.² This random, undirected process is presumably the exact opposite of what biotechinvestors are looking for, as is the payback

timescale of hundreds of generation. The term "Darwinian cloning"³ much better describes directed selection from a pool of varying precursors, especially for DNA-based systems which use cycles of selection, amplification, and mutagenesis. There is no need for "molecular evolution" to evolve a new, competing meaning: It is well adapted to its existing niche.

References

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Errata

The last sentence of the first full paragraph of "New Approaches to Capillary Isoelectric Focusing of Proteins" (*BioTechnology* 12:409, April) should read "In addition, these methods are extremely accurate for determining an unknown protein's isoelectric point."

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