

Second Cleveland Symposium on Infectious Diseases*

Introduction

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The pathogenesis of serious infectious diseases, their presenting symptoms, and the types of microorganisms have changed significantly in recent years. Improved microbiologic and clinical techniques have permitted further elucidation of the complex etiology and natural history of infectious diseases. Knowledge of these various factors and appreciation of the advantages and limitations of potent antimicrobial drugs have permitted a more rational approach to chemotherapy. Studies of patients with defective cellular or humoral defense mechanisms have provided an unprecedented insight into factors responsible for some infections, and thereby have intensified the search for new types of therapy and prophylaxis.

In organizing the Second Cleveland Symposium on Infectious Diseases, we selected previously unpublished clinical studies or subjects that had not been presented in the First Cleveland Symposium.¹ We have attempted to include material that would be of interest to the practicing physician and to persons with special interests in infectious diseases.

We thank the participants for their contributions. We also acknowledge the advice and counsel of our colleague, Emanuel Wolinsky, M.D.

Reference

1. Lerner PI, McHenry MC, Wolinsky E: Foreword. *Med Clin North Am* 58: 463–464, 1974.

*Publication of this Symposium was supported in part by a Grant from Bristol Laboratories, Syracuse, New York.

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