

FROM THE EDITOR

From 1998 on „Reports of Practical Oncology” will be published under the new title „Reports of Practical Oncology and Radiotherapy” and will be a joint journal of the Greatpoland Cancer Center in Poznań and the Polish Society of Radiation Oncology. The agreement between these two institutions has been made recently. We believe that it will result in the higher quality of the published papers and will meet with the expectations of our readers. Professor S. Korzeniowski from the Institute of Oncology in Krakow and professor B. Maciejewski from the Institute of Oncology in Gliwice have kindly agreed to co-edit the Clinical Radiotherapy and Clinical Radiobiology sections respectively.

The year 1998 marks the 45th Anniversary of establishing the Greatpoland Cancer Center in Poznań. Poznań is one of the major cities in Poland, called its first capital, and is a place where the first Polish kings were buried. The city today is rich with old time memorials but also accommodates large commerce and industry areas. It is also a significant University Center. The Greatpoland Cancer Center in Poznań is dedicated to the memory of Maria Skłodowska-Curie and the „Greatpoland” comes from the name of the whole region.

The first patients were admitted to our hospital in 1953. During these 45 years has hospital grown significantly. New buildings have been erected. Now it is among the largest oncological centers in Poland. Today, 8000 in-patients per year are treated in the hospital and another 80.000 out-patients are seen at various clinics. In the radiotherapy building, equipped with five megavoltage units, 4000 new patients are treated annually. At two surgery wards with five operation theatres over 3000 operations are carried out every year.

In addition to the patient care a wide research activity is being carried out. Scientific programmes include total body irradiation prior to bone marrow transplantation, gene therapy of cancer, cancer genetics, various types of clinical trials and basic research.

The Greatpoland Cancer Center is also involved in educational programmes both at the pre and postgraduate level.

Julian Malicki

Director of the Greatpoland Cancer Center