

## GENERAL CONCLUSION

---

Now we have come to the conclusion of this book. What kind of thoughts were brought on by finishing this book? Was it a sigh of relief or on the contrary, some sense of scientific satisfaction?

Believing in the latter, we think about future pathways along which tumor endocrinology will achieve improvement and perfection. Some of these tracks are shared with principles and further goals of general oncology and endocrinology—and others are more specific to the endocrinology of cancer. The more we understand the causes of hormone-associated cancers and mechanisms of tumor developments under the action of steroidal and peptide hormones, the greater the chance that earlier and more efficient diagnostics and targeted treatment of these carcinomas (both based on high-tech achievements including nanotechnological approaches) will occur. Comprehensive and comparative analysis of the evolutionary aspect of the problem will start a new era in the progress of this discipline. Last but not least, ‘An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure’—a phrase attributed to Benjamin Franklin—is considered in medicine without exception as a real truth. Consequently we await commentary on advancements in the prevention of endocrine-related cancer and how these methods will be elaborated in the future.

In closing, we have high hopes for the new developments and new innovations in endocrinology of cancer.

*Lev M. Berstein and Richard J. Santen*