

**(42) JL Lortat-Jacob, G Mathé and J Servier (1978)**

**International meeting on comparative therapeutic trials, Paris, January 9-10, 1978**

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### ***Preamble***

The paper, *Clinical trial methodology* by Richard Peto is available online at the James Lind Library ([www.jameslindlibrary.org/peto-r-1978](http://www.jameslindlibrary.org/peto-r-1978)). The *Overview* summarises some of the papers that were presented at the meeting but were not included in this volume.

### ***Aims***

*The purpose of this meeting was to discuss various approaches to the comparative therapeutic trials, highlight problems, controversies and opportunities and initiate a dialogue between the various disciplines involved in this particular technique. The meeting was a success with many talks and vigorous discussion (Overview, page 6).*

### ***Contents (63 pages)***

#### **Editorial**

Towards ecumenism for comparative trials (G Mathé)

#### **Overview**

An overview of the 1978 International meeting on Comparative Therapeutic Trials (SK Carter, G Mathé)

#### **Selected papers**

Comparative clinical trials with historical controls: a statistician's view (A Gehan)

Evaluation of prognosis and determination of therapy using multivariate methods (JP Nakache, P Lorente, C Chastang)

Clinical trial methodology (R Peto)

Practical and conceptual limitations of best conceived randomised trials (L Israel)

Sequential medical trials (P Armitage)

The two-armed-bandit problem: a decision theory approach in clinical trials (C Hill, H Sancho-Garnier)

The logistics of clinical trials (G Bonadonna, P Valagussa)

A comparison of the alternative methods of calculating survival curves arising from clinical trials (J Sylvester, D Machin, J Staquet)

The use of the NAG random number generating routines in simulated survival study (R Powles)

How to evaluate improvements in cancer treatments: the debate continues (FE Jones)

Therapeutic trials and the applicable principles of law (P Arpaillange, JL Gaston)

Clinical trials as a religion (AA Rimm, M Bortin)

### ***Authors***

The organisers of the meeting are JL Lortat-Jacob, G Mathé (Villejuif, France) and J Servier. The Editorial was written by G Mathé, and the overview by SK Carter (Palo Alto) and G Mathé; the other authors are P Armitage (Oxford, UK); P Arpaillange (Paris, France); G Bonadonna (Milan, Italy); M Bortin (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA); C Chastang (Paris, France); JL Gaston (Paris, France); A Gehan (Houston, Texas, USA); C Hill (Villejuif, France); L Israel (Bobigny, Paris, France); FE Jones (Tucson, Arizona, USA); P Lorente (Paris, France); D Machin (Brussels, Belgium); JP Nakache (Paris, France); R Peto (Oxford, UK); R Powles (London, UK); AA Rimm (Wilmaukee], Wisconsin, USA); H Sancho-Garnier (Villejuif, France); J Staquet (Brussels, Belgium); J Sylvester (Brussels, Belgium); P Valagussa (Milan, Italy).