

**CARCINOEMBRYONIC ANTIGEN IN AN UNSELECTED ELDERLY  
POPULATION: A FOUR YEAR FOLLOW UP\***

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hensive questionnaire, physiological testing, cancer of any type, non-neoplastic disease of including electrocardiogram and pulmonary the gastrointestinal system and death by any

function, and collection of a venous blood cause. Cancers were arbitrarily divided into specimen upon which multiple biochemical 2 groups on the basis of the reported incidence

(Curnow *et al.*, 1969). Coded frozen serum demonstrable cancer (LoGerfo *et al.*, 1971: specimens were transported by air to Zamcheck *et al.*, 1972; Laurence *et al.*, 1972):

Melbourne where they were stored at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  those in which the reported incidence of CEA

Dr P. Gold of Montreal. Normal goat serum II. Forty-four (4.5%) gave values of

*Non-neoplastic conditions including persons, from a group of 21 re-examined 4*  
*cigarette smoking.*—Of non-neoplastic years after showing a positive test for

ciated with CEA, only heavy cigarette occult asymptomatic cancer of the lung  
smoking was significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) and colon, respectively. In 20 (2%) of the

more prevalent among the 38 CEA- 956 elderly persons examined, there was  
positive persons who did not develop no discernible cause for a positive test for

cancer (Table II), as previously reported CEA.  
(Stevens *et al.*, 1973). Colonic diverticula A positive test for CEA in heavy

deaths from CEA associated cancer in

## REFERENCES

Russell, subjects whose sera were posi. CURNOW, D. H., CULLEN, K. J., MCCALL, M. G.,