Dunn T B. Normal and pathologic anatomy of the reticular tissue in laboratory mice, with a classification and discussion of neoplasms. J *Nat Cancer Inst.* **14**:1281-932, 1954.

The article presents a review of the hematopoietic and reticuloendothelial system, including an examination of the peripheral blood and blood-forming organs, normal anatomy, non-neoplastic and neoplastic changes, a proposed classification of tumors and a survey of the literature. [The *SCI*® indicates that this paper was cited 468 times in the period 1961-1977.]

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"When the Laboratory of Pathology at the National Cancer Institute was organized soon after World War II, members of the staff decided that each should concentrate on some laboratory species. I selected the mouse.

"I soon learned that the reticuloendothelial system was the most perplexing. I was dismayed to find how little had been published, and I realized that I would have to get the needed information for myself from the publications of others and from autopsies which I performed and the study of microscopic slides.

"After a few years I was bogged down in a chaotic mass of references, autopsy protocols, slides and photographs. I resolved to organize these into a comprehensive and reliable review. I had been trained in human pathology, and proposed to use the terminology and classification systems of medical pathology to make the work easier for others to follow.

"Finding a quiet place to work was a problem. Most laboratories are crowded with people and equipment. There is usually no chance to think or write. My assistant, Bill Stalters, found an unoccupied room in the Clinical Center which was completed but not yet fully occupied. He obtained a key and moved in a desk. We transported all of the material relating to the paper to this room. Every morning I went there and worked until noon. There was no telephone, and no one except Bill knew where I was. I think more and better papers would be written if every scientist were provided with a similar hide-away.

"The many excellent photographs made by Gebhard Gesell added greatly to the value of this paper, and the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* placed no restriction on the number published.

"I think the frequent citation of this paper may be because it was the first comprehensive review in this field. It appeared when the virus-induced leukemias in mice were discovered and immunologic research was accelerating.

"I think there should be other reviews of this type, as I know many scientists hesitate to work with mice because there are no easily available publications on anatomy and pathology. I had hoped to write a comprehensive review on murine endocrinology and embryology which, I think, are more relevant to human cancer than molecular biology. I published a paper on the adrenal gland of the mouse, but because of failing eyesight and retirement, I got no further. I have published a book on experimental cancer research titled: *The Unseen Fight Against Cancer* which emphasizes the importance of basic research to human cancer This did not require library work because it is based on my experience of nearly 30 years at the NCI."