in vitro.

Oldham, 4 and McCoy, 5 who had also observed this phenomenon. Rosenberg, 3 from Ron Herberman’s laboratory at the National Institutes of Health, reported by Rosenberg, 3 that the antitumor cytolytic activity of normal donor lymphocytes was a real phenomenon. 1-2 donor lymphocytes was a real phenomenon. 1-2

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This independently corroborated earlier results from Ron Herberman’s laboratory at the National Institutes of Health, reported by Rosenberg, 3 Oldham, 4 and McCoy, 5 who had also observed this in vitro cytotoxic phenomenon.

"In 1975, I had the very good fortune to continue my studies as a visiting scientist with Herberman at the National Cancer Institute. Because Herberman's lab was both active and crowded, I found my bench space was limited for some time to the work surface available inside an unused fume hood! This, however, had the advantage of keeping the next guy's books and beakers off my work area, and also added delightfully to my memories of a hardworking, productive environment, where ideas abounded and collaboration was easy. Working with Bill West (a physician/investigator already characterizing membrane receptors on 'natural killer' (NK) cells) and Guy Bonnard (a senior scientist in Herberman's group who was heading up the human NK studies unit), I began to explore the intriguing relationship between NK cells on the one hand, and 'killer' (K) cells on the other, which are identical to NK cells in every way, except that they require the Fc receptors on their surface membranes to bind IgG-sensitized targets. The results of our studies were submitted to the journal of Immunology in November 1976.

"The popularity of this manuscript has been most surprising, and no doubt relates to: 1) the sound reputation established over the years by Herberman and his colleagues in NK cell studies; 2) the vigorous popularity which studies of NK cells have now come to enjoy (e.g., when I began my NK studies, there may have been two or three papers a year reporting tumor cell killing by normal-donor lymphocytes; today, there are at least ten times that many appearing every month!); and 3) the interesting results we obtained while addressing the NK/K cell relationship. For example, the paper has been frequently cited for our descriptions of the protease-sensitivity of NK activity compared to antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC); our use of staphylococcal protein A to block binding of effector-cell Fc receptors to immobilized IgG immune complexes; our comparison of NK/ADCC function in T cell and non-T cell fractions; and our use of unique cell lines to simultaneously measure NK and ADCC functions in parallel but separate assays. A comprehensive update of the NK field was recently edited by Herberman. 6"