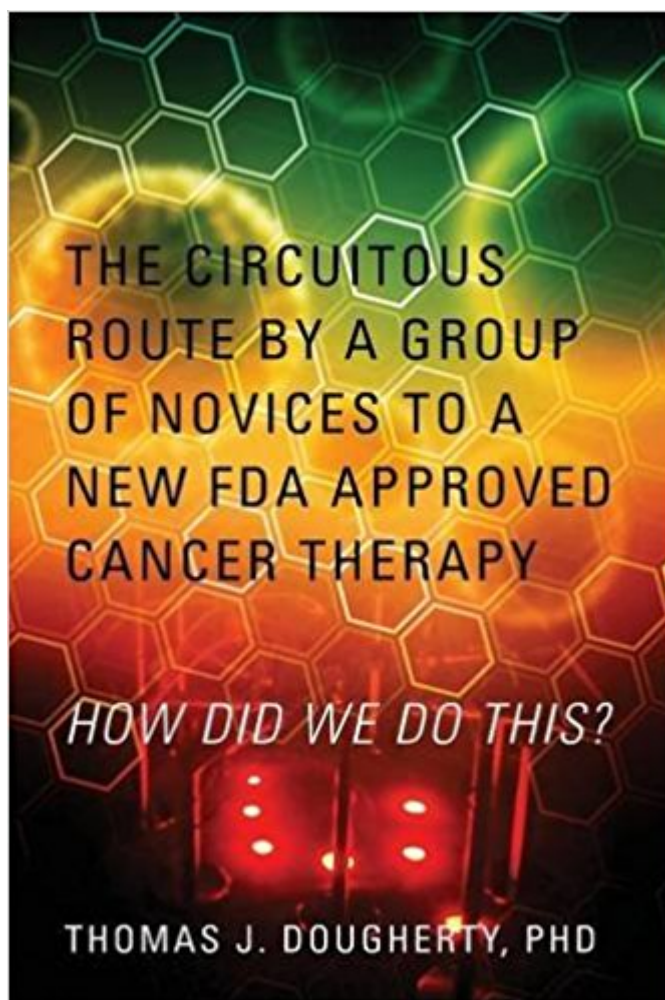


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The Circuitous Route By A Group Of Novices To A New FDA Approved Cancer Therapy: HOW DID WE DO THIS?



Synopsis

How we got there... When I first started as a cancer researcher at one of the top cancer centers in the country, I needed to find my own project knowing nothing about cancer I went to the cancer literature in search of an unsolved problem in cancer. I found one relating to radiation therapy and started to work on it. This required a new compound that had to be non-toxic to be useful. While testing the toxicity in cells a technician told me to keep the cell out of the light or the cells will die. This was a Eureka moment- has anyone tried to use this way to treat cancer in patients? The answer was no. Thus began our new treatment described in this book - Photodynamic Therapy - now an accepted way to treat certain cancers without many of the side effects of current treatment. This book describes the ups and downs of the 20 year route to FDA approval experienced by those starting with no knowledge of cancer nor how the FDA is intimately involved in the clinical aspects of a new treatment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Dougherty has authored or co-authored more than 200 journal publications, book chapters and abstracts, and holds over 50 patents. Dr. Dougherty is recognized as the Father of Photodynamic Therapy and has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Photobiology. Other awards he has received include The Benjamin Franklin Award for contribution to the betterment of health, Inventor of the year award from the patent attorney group in Buffalo, NY, the Pioneers of Science Award established by Professor Hauptman (a recipient of the Nobel

Award), The Sullivant Award, the highest award given by The Ohio State University for a graduate who has contributed most to the status of the university, A Doctorate of Humane Letters from Canisius College in Buffalo NY where he received his college degree and several others.

This book is the first person account of the translation of lab bench science into a worldwide clinical success. It is very quick read that grabs your attention and holds it. In 24 years of ups and downs a group of inexperienced people starting with very little money and a cancer treatment that worked in mice managed to successfully navigate a drug approval process that often frustrates huge drug companies. They won FDA approval of a new modality for treating cancer. The ultimate success of this effort owes a great deal to what the author calls serendipity. Others might call it persistence, hard work and a few miracles.

An amazing story about one of the few major advances in cancer therapy by the leader of the group that did it. He takes the reader through the assorted steps in the obstacle course involved in getting new drugs approved for clinical use. Anyone who wants to see what is involved in research (basic and applied) and in the regulatory processes ought to have a look.

I was very impressed with the accomplishments Tom (and his team) achieved and the description of the difficulties faced and overcome in an easy to read manner. One lesson seems to come across for others: when you come to an area that is not your expertise the first time around (setting up a business for example), don't hesitate to seek expertise. You will come to that conclusion but by a more "circuitous" route.~ ~ The Circuitous Route by a Group of Novices to a New FDA Approved Cancer Therapy: HOW DID WE DO THIS?

It is rare and wonderful for an accomplished scientist to offer an honest personal narrative about drug discovery and the journey from the bench to the bedside. Dr. Dougherty's stories are filled with humor and compassion, offering profound insight about the obstacles and the joys of cancer research. This book is required reading for anyone who is interested in learning exactly how the remarkable science of photodynamic therapy was born.

Having had experienced the "circuitous route"....Dr. Dougherty tells the story just as I recall it! The book is well written, an easy read and could be a learning experience for future scientists. I highly recommend the book....5 stars!

This book describes exactly what can happen in the field of cancer therapy when you mix perseverance, passion, and a little luck. I recommend this book to everyone wanting to make a difference in their chosen field of endeavor.

This book is an eye opener for anyone wanting/needing to learn more about the treatment of cancer. PDT seems to be the answer to so many questions.

A fascinating story told with humor, compassion and readability...thank goodness there are people like Dr. Dougherty that are dedicated to finding answers!

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