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## SYMPOSIUM ON SELENIUM, VITAMIN E, AND CANCER

### Introduction

This symposium was held in September 1982 in Kansas City. The purpose of the symposium was to update our present knowledge of the association of dietary intakes of selenium, vitamin E, and other antioxidants on the process of carcinogenesis. Five research presentations were made by nationally and internationally recognized scientists conducting research in this area. Data were presented that indicate that selenium, vitamin E, and various antioxidants can alter the incidence of experimentally induced cancer. The possible mechanism(s) by which these agents reduce the process of carcinogenesis was (were) addressed. These reviews indicate that selenium can inhibit both the initiation and promotion phases of carcinogenesis. These reviews also indicated that selenium, vitamin E, and other antioxidants are probably not reducing cancer risks or susceptibility through a common mechanism.

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