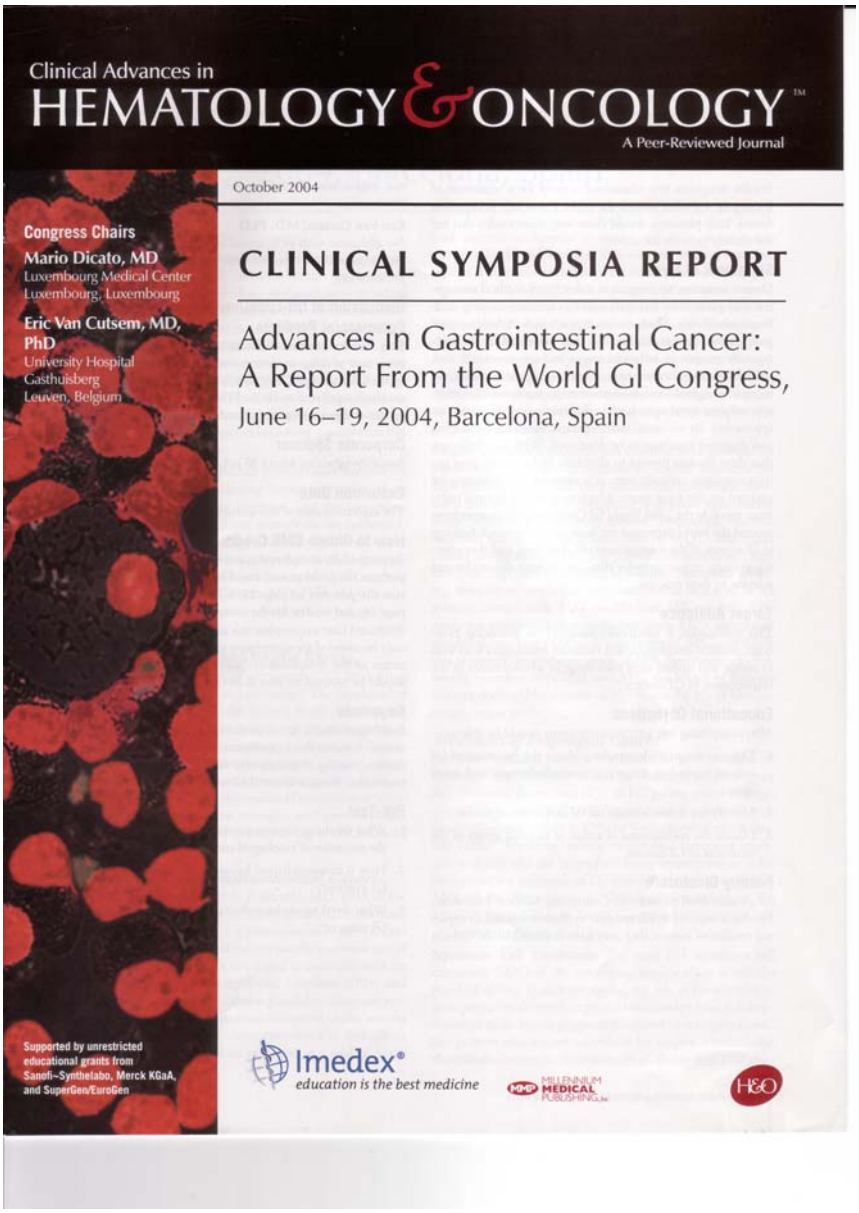

Section IV: CRC: Screening and Genetic Profiling

CRC Screening Methods

Two studies of novel experimental CRC screening methods were presented. The first study assessed the efficacy of an immune fecal occult-blood test (FOBT) for the screening of CRC in an asymptomatic moderate-risk population.[110] These findings suggested that immune FOBT is an effective method for the screening of CRC or adenomatous polyps, allowing early detection of the disease. The second trial showed that fecal levels of tumor pyruvate kinase type M2 (M2-PK), an isoenzyme of pyruvate kinase, were significantly higher in 207 patients with CRC than in samples of 107 patients with adenoma or 100 healthy controls (P<.001; Figure 3).[111] Based on these findings, it appears that tumor M2-PK has potential as a screening tool for the early detection of CRC.

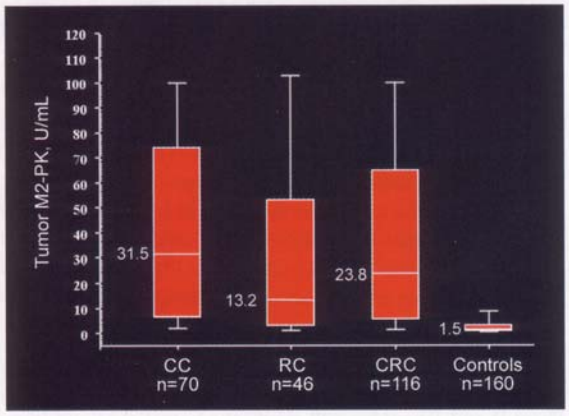

Figure 3. Levels of tumor M2-PK in stool

CC=colon cancer; RC=rectal cancer; CRC=colorectal cancer; M2-PK=pyruvate kinase type M2.