

## EDITORIAL

### AN ERA OF MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY?

The second half of the 20th Century has seen several forward leaps in diagnostic pathology. The most notable among them have been due to the introduction into the diagnostic armoury, of electron microscopy, histochemistry and immunopathological techniques. The most recent to join the ranks are the molecular biology techniques which have now taken our understanding of disease, pathophysiological deliberations and diagnostic precision to the molecular level. The leading articles in this issue of the journal suggest how gene probes and restriction enzymes may be applied to the investigation of diseases of local interest. Although immunology remains the backbone of investigative pathology today, it appears that another Golden era in diagnostic pathology, that of molecular pathology, is imminent.

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Editor