To understand the pathogenesis of a lysosomal transport defect, detailed investigation of the substrate specificity of the affected transporter is an essential step.

Lysosomal transport defects are candidates for successful pharmacological treatment.

From the primary sequence of a protein, its function in transmembrane solute transport can be deduced.

The primary sequence of a transport protein does not allow prediction about the biochemical mechanism of transport.

In the screening of patients for an unidentified lysosomal transport defect, microscopical evidence of lysosomal storage should not always be expected.

In contrast with modern human society, eukaryotic cells have solved in an efficient and sophisticated way the problem of waste product recycling.

The function of the same membrane protein as a transporter for specific substrates and as a receptor for virus entry reveals the unexpected contribution of transport proteins to multiple physiological processes.

VIII  Hopefully, a therapy will soon be available for the "Yentl syndrome".  (Haley, 1991 N. Engl. J. Med. 325:274; Ayanian et al. ibidem p. 221; Steingart et al. ibidem p. 226)


X  If the ultimate goal of the progress going on in the "developing countries" is to even up the western societies, they will never be really developed.

XI  It is to hope that the 1992 celebration of Columbus' "discovery" will not mean the celebration of a genocide.

Grazia M.S. Mancini  
Rotterdam, 18 December 1991