

As the cells constituting each of the clones evaluated had gone through a similar number of generations and were grown under identical conditions *in vitro*, the rate of chromosome number change could be directly compared. The non-CIN lines passaged for 50 generations demonstrated far less variation than CIN cells passaged for 25 generations, ruling out trivial differences in generation number as the basis for the noted differences (Table 1). The rate of chromosome loss or gain was estimated to be in excess of  $10^{-2}$  per generation for each chromosome analysed in each of the four CIN lines. Corrected for the number of chromosomes per cell and assuming that CIN affects all chromosomes equally, this translated into a gain or loss of a chromosome in at least one of every five cell divisions.