UTERINE PATHOLOGY

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Robert A. Soslow and Teri A. Longacre



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PREFACE

Uterine pathology represents one of the most important parts of any anatomic pathology practice, both in quantitative terms and in complexity. Discussion in this book is built around major pathologic entities in the uterus and cervix while highlighting the diverse and complex spectrum of alterations encountered in daily practice. The book's primary goal is to lay the foundation for diagnostic accuracy, relevance and reproducibility by emphasizing clear description and problem solving throughout. We have also sought to dispel common misconceptions and encourage an intelligent and thoughtful approach to diagnostic problems using all the tools available to the modern pathologist. Through this, we hope the book stimulates curiosity and excitement about the field of gynecologic pathology.

The first four chapters cover cytology and surgical pathology of the uterine cervix. Highlights here are the in-depth coverage of the diagnostic use of biomarkers in

cervical pathology and practical guidelines that can be used for staging and reporting cervical neoplasia. The nonneoplastic endometrium and chapters devoted to tumors of the uterine corpus follow. Examples of problematic differential diagnoses that are discussed include: complex atypical hyperplasia versus endometrioid adenocarcinoma; FIGO grade 3 endometrioid adenocarcinoma versus clear cell, serous and undifferentiated carcinomas; carcinosarcoma (MMMT) versus endometrioid adenocarcinoma with spindle cell features; adenofibroma versus adenosarcoma; atypical smooth muscle tumor versus leiomyosarcoma; and primary versus metastatic carcinomas involving the uterus. New developments in gestational trophoblastic disease and Lynch syndrome are also presented. It is our sincere hope that this book will serve as a comprehensive and practical resource in uterine pathology for the general and gynecologic subspecialist pathologist.

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This work would not have been possible without the help and inspiration of a number of individuals, especially our mentors and our spouses. We acknowledge the visionary leadership of Richard Kempson and Michael Hendrickson that helped shape our philosophies about morphological interpretation, classification, terminology and clinicopathological correlation and research. We hope to convey that spirit of thoughtful inquiry to the next generation of pathologists. A large debt of gratitude is owed to Richard Hildebrandt (Teri Longacre's spouse), and Michael Ogborn (Rob Soslow's spouse), for their patient and loving support as we worked on this project.

Our colleagues and trainees deserve particular acknowledgment: we continue to learn from them every day. Finally, we sincerely thank Norm Cyr at Stanford and Kin Kong and Allyne Manzo at Memorial for their assistance in preparation of the figures and diagrams in the book – Norm did a magnificent job with the endometrial cancer diagram in Chapter 7 – and Daniel Chiappetta for his help proofreading the galleys.