

LYMPHOMA

Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment

Major advances have occurred in almost every aspect of the diagnosis and treatment of lymphoma in recent years. Our understanding of the molecular biology and genetics of the disease has increased exponentially, and significant developments in imaging of this malignancy have resulted in earlier and more accurate diagnosis. At the same time, advances in therapeutic immunology have led to the development of several new treatment options.

This landmark new text describes these advances in a single concise volume, placing them in the context of daily clinical practice. Introductory chapters review epidemiology, prognostic factors, imaging and therapeutic immunology. These are followed by chapters on each lymphoma subtype, dealing comprehensively with all aspects of the diagnosis and treatment of the disorder.

Unique features

- Pathology and cytogenetics information is fully integrated into the discussion of each disease entity, enabling the reader to review all the key diagnostic information for each disorder in one place.
- Treatment algorithms are provided for each lymphoma subtype to guide the reader through the decision-making process for first- and second-line treatment strategies.

Highly illustrated in full color throughout and written and edited by the leading authorities in the field, *Lymphoma: Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment* provides all the information needed to diagnose and manage these complex disorders.

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Edited by Robert Marcus, John W. Sweetenham and Michael E. Williams

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Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment

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To ERH “sapere aude” and JMG “il miglior fabbro”
Robert Marcus

To my patients and colleagues, from whom I have
learned so much
John Sweetenham

To my family, patients and colleagues, with gratitude
Michael Williams

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PREFACE

Why publish a book on lymphoma in 2007? Surely there are sufficient reviews, meetings and published educational symposia to make such a work redundant. Furthermore, doesn't instant access to online information make any work in print out of date before it appears?

The editors and authors of this work think not. We firmly believe that there is still a place for a clear summary of the diagnosis, staging and therapy of lymphoma in a single volume that reflects the advances in these areas which have taken place over the past five years. The problem with the plethora of information now available is that it is rarely set in a framework of understanding of the major challenges which still face those involved with the diagnosis and therapy of non-Hodgkin's and Hodgkin's lymphomas. We, and our patients, are confronted with many facts but little judgment. This work is our modest attempt to rectify this.

Accordingly the layout of the book should enable the reader to gain an understanding of patterns of disease, methods of staging, principles of new approaches to therapy, and interpretation of clinical trials and prognostic markers by reading the first part of the book. In the second part the reader will find separate succinct yet comprehensive reviews of the individual disease entities which make up the spectrum of diseases comprising the lymphomas. Here we have integrated pathology, molecular biology and therapy for each subtype into a single chapter; the reader will not need to flick backwards and forwards to gain a comprehensive understanding of, say, follicular or diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. Such an integration has posed significant editorial challenges, and has been made possible by a willingness

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on the part of Dr Wotherspoon, Dr Rosenwald and co-workers to accept that their contributions on histopathology and molecular cytogenetics would be divided and distributed among the relevant chapters. The editors are most grateful for their support.

Each chapter is followed by a select bibliography rather than an exhaustive list of references. We feel that these date very quickly, take up disproportionate amounts of space and are better found by internet searches or perusal of current journals.

This book is intended for senior trainees and fellows in hematology and oncology, together with more experienced practitioners who regularly treat these disorders. It is not intended for those who may feel they could have written the chapters themselves. It is also not a book where the reader will find detailed descriptions of rarities seen once in a professional lifetime.

The appearance of this volume comes at an opportune time: we have seen over the past five years a profound understanding of the pathology of lymphoma, the use of increasingly sophisticated imaging techniques, and the integration of monoclonal antibodies into standard therapy for NHL. Our hope is that these radical changes in the way we diagnose and treat lymphoma have been reflected in the book and will stand the reader in good stead even when newer data become available.

The editors express their sincere and heartfelt thanks to all the authors, who have, in the main, responded promptly to our comments and recommendations, and to all those at Cambridge University Press who have helped with this project: Richard Barling, who set the wheels of this vehicle in motion, and especially Betty Fulford and Deborah Russell, who kept it moving to its final destination whenever it threatened to stall.