HEAD AND NECK

Cambridge Illustrated Surgical Pathology

Much of the diversity of head and neck diseases is due to the large number and broad functions of the organs in this region. The surgical pathologist must become proficient in this subspecialty area in order to identify and categorize many different subtypes of lesions and diseases, including those affecting the thyroid and salivary glands. This latest book in the Cambridge Illustrated Surgical Pathology series comprehensively covers all of the methods utilized by pathologists to accurately diagnose diseases affecting all organs in the head and neck region. Coverage not only is limited to light microscopic findings but also includes cytology and other genetic, molecular, and immunologic diagnostic modalities. This book is illustrated with more than 300 color photomicrographs and accompanied by a CD-ROM of all images in downloadable format.

Margaret Brandwein-Gensler, MD, is Professor of Pathology and Otorhinolaryngology at Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx, New York.
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PREFACE

The field of head and neck pathology is relatively small as compared to other pathology specialties. For most hospitals, the volume of specimens submitted by otolaryngologists, head and neck surgeons, and oral surgeons is much lower than that of gastrointestinal or gynecological specimens. Yet the vast array of benign and malignant tumors that affect the head and neck, and the ever-expanding classification schemata necessary for diagnosis and prognostication, makes this specialty unceasingly fascinating. Losing oneself in the ever-branching, nosological subclassifications should not diminish attention to our ultimate responsibility: to accurately guide surgeons and clinicians and convey the prognostic implications of a particular diagnosis.

This atlas is written for general surgical pathologists, head and neck pathologists, and residents in pathology and otolaryngology. My intention is that this atlas becomes an accessible, practical go-to text. The general surgical pathologist reading head and neck specimens is challenged by diagnostic diversity in the face of specimen rarity. I hope that looking at these images and focusing on the key diagnostic points and differential diagnoses will lead the pathologist along the “right” path. I must add, though, that there is no greater teacher than the actual slides; remember that the slides are always trying to tell you something.

I would like to acknowledge my mentors and teachers: the late Andy Huvos, Douglas Gnepp, and Michael Prystowsky. Mike’s vision and scientific leadership of The Einstein Montefiore Head and Neck Research Group has resulted in an outstanding environment, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this group.

I would like to thank my many colleagues in pathology and surgery who have been my teachers over the years. I am especially grateful for the valuable suggestions by Drs. Nasser Said Al-Naief and Rashna Madan, and for Rashna’s superb contributions on thyroid and salivary cytology.

I dedicate this book to my wonderful parents, Lester and Cyla Brand; my dear husband, Matthew; and our family: Nechama, Yaacov, Alexandra, Blima, Akiva, Shaindy, Ari, Shimmy, Rachele, and Shlomo. Thank you for tolerating my absence.

Margaret Brandwein-Gensler