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Prabodh K. Gupta and Zubair W. Baloch  
Frontmatter  
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# CYTOHISTOLOGY: ESSENTIALS AND BASIC CONCEPTS

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## CYTOHISTOLOGY OF SMALL TISSUE SAMPLES

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**Published in association with the Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology**

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Prabodh K. Gupta MBBS, MD, FIAC

Zubair W. Baloch MD, PhD

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This book is dedicated to our numerous students, trainees, cytotechnologists, and  
colleagues who have taught us much of what we know.

PKG  
ZWB

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In celebration of the life and teachings of the late

**John Kingsbury Frost MD**

(1922–1990)

Dedicated teacher and a friend.

He leaves behind the Basic Concepts that shall enrich the lives of many students of cytopathology.

PKG

ZWB

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ASC-H	atypical squamous cells suspect high grade	HPC	hemangiopericytoma
ASPS	alveolar soft part sarcoma	HSP	heat shock proteins
BAL	bronchoalveolar	IAP	inhibitor of apoptosis proteins
BES	balanced electrolyte solution	LBC	liquid-based cytology
BSA	bovine serum albumin	LBP	liquid-based preparation
BSS	balanced salt solution	LCA	leucocyte Common Antigens
CCP	ciliocytophthoria	LOH	loss of heterozygosity
CD	clusters of differentiation	LSC	laser scanning cytometry
CGH	comparative genomic hybridization	MFH	malignant fibrous histiocytoma
CIS	carcinoma in situ	MH	mesothelial hyperplasia
CISH	chromogenic in situ hybridization	MM	malignant mesothelioma
CMA	chromosomal microanalysis	N:C	Nucleocytoplasmic Ratio
DF	dermatofibroma	NFP	neurofilament proteins
DTTF	diagnostic true tissue fragment	NSGCT	non-seminomatous germ cell tumors
EBC	evidence-based criteria	PCP	<i>Pneumocystis jiroveci</i> pneumonia
EGFR	Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor	PEComa	perivascular epithelioid cell tumor
E-LMS	epithelioid leiomyosarcoma	PEG	polyethylene glycol
EMA	epithelial membrane antigen	PNET	peripheral neuroectodermal tumor
EMSS	epithelioid monophasic synovial sarcoma	PP	post-partum
ES	epithelioid sarcoma	PTO	post-test odds
EUS	endoscopic ultrasound	SBRCT	small blue round cell tumors
FISH	fluorescent in situ hybridization	SFT	solitary fibrous tumor
FNA	fine needle aspirations	SLCL	small cell lung cancer
GCT	germ cell tumors	TBS	The Bethesda System
GFAP	glial fibrillary acidic proteins	TdT	terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase
GIST	gastrointestinal stromal tumor	TMA	tissue microarray
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin	TP	terminal plate

## PREFACE

*Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is to not stop questioning*  
 Albert Einstein

This monograph is a compilation of the Concepts Basic to General Cytopathology written by the late John K. Frost MD, published in 1959 by Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore. It was produced for use by the various students of cytopathology. The last (fourth) edition was printed in 1972. The original book of “concepts” has been translated into Chinese and Persian languages and is considered a “Bible” for understanding the fundamentals of clinical cytopathology.

This book is a conceptual document and not a comprehensive account of cytohistology. It integrates the fundamental concepts of diagnostic cytohistology as developed over decades of observations and insights which have stood the test of time. They are regarded as the most valuable for *accurate interpretation and diagnosis of the cytologic specimens*. In the modern practice of medicine, microscopic interpretation and biologic behavior are often poorly connected. These factual conclusions, however slim, contribute to the crux of diagnosis and patient care, including grading and staging of most tumors. This monograph is intended to improve cytodiagnoses.

The book is organized into seven chapters. A brief history of cytohistology is presented followed by a detailed discussion of “normal” cells derived from the various body sites and preparations; malignant cell transformation, functional differentiation of various tissues, and diagnostic pitfalls are presented in that order. A chapter by Mr. Gary W. Gill on Fixation and Specimen Processing is included. A final chapter by Dr. Carlos Bedrossian is an overview that briefly discusses the ancillary techniques used for the refinement of cytologic interpretation. This chapter on the multidisciplinary approach to cytopathology is enriched by contributions from Dr. Fernando Schmitt,

Dr. Ben Davidson, Dr. Claire Michael, Dr. Bjorn Risberg, and Dr. J. Reis Filho.

Although originally intended to be used with a set of representative glass slides corroborating the features described in the book, in the present monograph the original form has been suitably modified while retaining its integrity. A number of photomicrographs illustrating the salient features seen in the glass slides have been incorporated. The text has also been updated, reflecting some of our opinions and concepts as well as including the morphologic alterations seen by the recent introduction of various cytologic specimen collection and preparation techniques.

The cytologic descriptions in this manual are based upon the features as observed in the routine Papanicolaou polychromatic and Diff-Quik™ stains; however, when other stains have been used, this is mentioned. The line illustrations are conceptual and depict the critical/reproducible diagnostic cytomorphologic features that need to be scrutinized in the specimens. These were drawn and lettered by the late Dr. Frost; penned inscriptions and text have been carefully updated to facilitate interpretation without losing the original flair. Photomicrographs have been included to further enhance the learning experience and improve the teaching value. Most illustrations represent conventional smears and concentration techniques (Millipore® filters, Cytospins®, ThinPrep®, and SurePath™). The majority of these photomicrographs represent our (PG, ZB) collection; magnifications and resolutions observable by high dry microscope objectives and proper optical alignment are reproduced. Some of the key figures are from Dr. Frost’s archival files kept at the Johns Hopkins Cytopathology Laboratory, Baltimore. A few illustrations are selected from the collections of Dr. Yener S. Erozan MD, Professor Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and former staff members including the late Drs. David H. Hollander MD and William Howdon MD. We thank Mr. Allen Green for his valuable secretarial

## PREFACE

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assistance. Special thanks to Mr. Christopher Miller of the Cambridge University Press for his help and willingness to work with us and keep us on track.

We believe this book will serve as a valuable primer to all students of cytopathology including cytotechnologists and pathologists in training; experienced persons may

consult it when the cells do not speak loudly enough or in a muffled voice.

PKG

ZWB

*Philadelphia PA*

*October 2010*