Progress in Pathology

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Edited by

Nigel Kirkham MD FRCPATH
Consultant Histopathologist
Royal Sussex County Hospital
Brighton, UK

Neil A. Shepherd MB BS FRCPATH
Consultant Histopathologist &
Visiting Professor of Pathology
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
Gloucester, UK
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Contributors

Malcolm R. Alison BSc PhD DSc FRCPath
Department of Histopathology
Imperial College
London, UK

Kirsten A. Atkins MD
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, USA

Suhaill I. Baithun MB ChB FRCPath
Senior Lecturer in Pathology &
Honorary Consultant Pathologist
The Royal London Hospital
London, UK

Paul S. Bass BSc FRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist &
Honorary Senior Lecturer
Southampton University Hospital Trust
Southampton, Hampshire, UK

Alan W. Bates PhD
Consultant Histopathologist &
Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer in Pathology
The Royal London Hospital
London, UK

Laurence J. R. Brown BSc MB BS FRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist &
Honorary Senior Lecturer
Leicester Royal Infirmary
Leicester, UK

Natalie C. Direkze MA MB BS MRCP
Clinical Research Fellow
Cancer Research UK and
Department of Histopathology
Imperial College
London, UK

Anthony J. Freemont BSc MD FRCP FRCPath
Professor of Osteoarticular Pathology
University of Manchester
Manchester, UK

Allan G. Howatson BSc MB ChB FRCS Ed FRCPath
Consultant Paediatric Pathologist
The Royal Hospital for Sick Children
Glasgow, UK

G. Harry Millward-Sadler BSc MB ChB FRCPath MHSM
Consultant & Honorary Senior Lecturer
Department of Pathology
Southampton University Hospitals
Southampton, UK

Andrew G. Nicholson MB BS MRCP DM
Consultant Histopathologist
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK

Richard Poulson BSc PhD MRCPath
Histopathology Unit
Cancer Research UK
London, UK

Sean L. Preston BSc MB BS MRCP
Histopathology Unit
Cancer Research UK and
Department of Histopathology
Barts and the London Queen Mary’s School of Medicine & Dentistry
London, UK

Alexandra J. Rice BA MB BChir MRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist
St Mary’s Hospital
London, UK
Contributors

Mary E. Rogerson FRCP
Consultant Nephrologist
Southampton University Hospital Trust
Southampton, Hampshire, UK

Mary N. Sheppard FRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist
Royal Brompton & Harefield Trust
London, UK

Kassiani Skordilias MSc MRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist
Central Manchester & Manchester Children’s University Hospitals
Manchester, UK

Athol U. Wells MB ChB FRACP MD
Interstitial Lung Disease Unit
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK

Mark A. Whittaker MRCPath
Consultant Histopathologist
Royal Hospital Haslar
Gosport, Hampshire, UK

Nicholas A. Wright MS DSc MD PhD FRCP FRCS FRCPath FMedSci
Histopathology Unit
Cancer Research UK and Department of Histopathology Barts and the London Queen Mary’s School of Medicine and Dentistry
London, UK
Preface

Our aim is to offer reviews of topics on areas of diagnostic difficulty and to balance these with contributions on areas of scientific advance. The first diagnostic challenge in this Volume is that of small round cell tumours in childhood, where we have a comprehensive review of the subject. This is followed by equally thorough reviews of lupus nephritis and the interstitial pneumonias.

Joint diseases do not offer the glamour of the complex diagnostic classifications of, for instance, lymphomas but are important and potentially disabling to the patient. The pathologist has much to offer in the examination of biopsies and joint aspirates. Here we are fortunate to have a full account, with pointers to a possible place for molecular diagnosis in the near future.

Liquid-based cytology has been widely promoted as the future for cervical cytopathology, where screening programmes seem likely to pursue this technology. We have a thorough description of this advancing area backed up by a chapter in which the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of cervical glandular intra-epithelial neoplasia is presented. The Volume continues with a consideration of metastatic tumours in the urinary tract.

The autopsy has been very much in the news recently and mainly for the wrong reasons. To help redress this balance we have two chapters from expert authors, the first describing the autopsy and maternal death, and the second looking at sudden cardiac deaths. The Volume concludes with a review of the rapidly progressing field of stem cell biology of which we will plainly see much more, and probably very soon.

We trust that our readers will find the book both informative and enjoyable to read. We look forward to meeting you again with Volume 7 of ‘Progress in Pathology’.

N.K. and N.A.S.

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