

Diagnostic Pediatric Cytopathology and Histopathologic Correlation





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Edited by

Pauline M. Chou MD

Division Head, Anatomic Pathology, Department of Pathology, Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, and Professor of Pathology, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

Paolo Gattuso MD

Professor of Pathology and Director of the Anatomic Pathology Laboratory, Rush Medical College, Chicago, IL, USA

Vijaya B. Reddy MD MBAProfessor and Associate Chair of Pathology, Rush Medical College, Chicago, IL, USA

Miguel Reyes-Mugica

Marjory K. Harmer Chair in Pediatric Pathology, Chief of Pathology and Head of Laboratories Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. Professor of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Editor-in-Chief, Pediatric and Developmental Pathology, Pittsburgh, PA, USA





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Contributors

Rita Alaggio, MD

Department of Medicine, Surgical Pathology and Cytopathology Unit, University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Joan Cangiarella, MD

Vice-Chair, Clinical Operations, Associate Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, NYU School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

Pauline M. Chou, MD

Division Head, Anatomic Pathology, Department of Pathology, Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, and Professor of Pathology, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

Patrizia Dall'Igna, MD

Women's and Children's Health Department, Division of Pediatric Surgery, University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Dina El Demellawy

University of Ottawa – Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Ambrogio Fassina, MD

Department of Medicine, Surgical Pathology and Cytopathology Unit, University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Michael Kevin Fritsch, MD, PhD

Ann and Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

Zhanna Georgievskaya

City Medical Examiner, Office of Chief Medical Examiner, 520 First Avenue, New York, NY, USA

Anita Gupta, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH, USA

Pascale Levine, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology, NYU School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

Xiayuan Liang, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology, Children's Hospital Colorado, University of Colorado School of Medicine

Sara E. Monaco, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology, Director of Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy Service, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, and Director of Cytopathology Fellowship Program, Department of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Hector L. Monforte-Muñoz, MD

Attending Pathologist, All Children's Hospital Johns Hopkins Medicine, St. Petersburg, Florida, USA

Ajit S. Paintal, MD

Assistant Professor of Pathology, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

Veena Rajaram, MD

Director of Anatomic Pathology and Electron Microscopy, Children's Medical Center, and Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, UT Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX, USA

Miguel Reyes-Múgica, MD

Marjory K. Harmer Chair in Pediatric Pathology, Chief of Pathology and Head of Laboratories, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. Professor of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Editor-in-Chief, Pediatric and Developmental Pathology, Pittsburgh, PA, USA



List of contributors

Kristian T. Schafernak, MD, MPH, DABCC

Director, Hematology and Hematopathology, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. Assistant Professor of Pathology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, USA

Amy Sheil, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH, USA

Aylin Simsir, MD

Professor of Pathology, Director of Cytopathology, NYU School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

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Preface

This book is intended to fill an education gap in pediatric cytopathology. In the past decade or so, there has been a profound evolution in the way we obtain tissue for diagnosis. With increasing frequency, we are required to do more with less. The current healthcare system is largely dictated by a need to decrease morbidity and to decrease cost. As such, we are likely to see an increase in the number of these minimally invasive procedures in our daily practice even in our youngest patients. Indeed, much can be done with limited samples. This is in part thanks to the exponential growth of molecular diagnostic tools. Still, morphology remains the most important aspect of our specialty and it is unlikely that despite the advance in molecular techniques, it will wholly supplant the microscope.

While cytopathology and histology beautifully complement one another, historically we as pediatric pathologists have reluctantly kept the two separate. Perhaps this is due to the under emphasis during our training of the synergistic value of the two complementary rather than disparate

approaches. In this book, we integrate the features of individual cells with architecture to approach our cases from both angles. Experts from various institutions have shared their experiences in each chapter (organized by organ system) with real-life cases and the end result is likely to become a classic but has the most up-to-date molecular genetic features. More and more of what we do every day is multiparametric whereby we integrate the clinical, morphologic, immunophenotypic and genetic features to arrive at the most precise diagnosis possible.

This book could not have come along at a more opportune time given the above reasons. It is our hope that this book with the more than 1000 high quality illustrations will serve as a reference for pediatric pathologists or cytopathologists who will likely encounter pediatric cases in their daily practice, as well as residents or fellows in training to help facilitate their understanding of a wide range of tumors or tumor-like conditions in children.



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Lastly but not the least I would like to thank Maria Nieves for her administrative support and for putting up with all the extra work that this book entails.

Pauline M. Chou, MD

To Cláudia, with love.

Miguel Reyes-Múgica, MD