

Progress in Pathology

Volume 6



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Edited by

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Greenwich Medical Media Limited 4th Floor, 137 Euston Road, London NW1 2AA

870 Market Street, Ste 720 San Francisco CA 94109, USA

ISBN 1841101486

First published 2003

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A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Distributed worldwide by Plymbridge Distributors Ltd and in the USA by Jamco Distribution

Typeset by Charon Tec Pvt. Ltd, Chennai, India Printed in China

Visit our website at: www.greenwich-medical.co.uk



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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. *Brighton and Gloucester July* 2003