

Targeted Cancer Therapy – An Odyssey

O. S. Brunland & T. Flaegsted, editors
Ravnetrykk, 2003, 240 pp
ISBN: 82-91378-32-0

The book is published in connection with the Tromsø symposium 'Targeted Cancer Therapies' in late June 2003. It is split into three main sections: The Keynote Addresses, Invited Lectures, and the Proffered Papers Section. The keynote addresses take us on an educational historical/philosophical journey (Odyssey) from the ancient Greeks over Erhlich to modern academic-industrial scientific collaboration. The next section brings us close to specific areas and aspects of targeted cancer therapy. In twenty-one short, but exciting, mini-reviews, distinguished specialists cover a variety of topics, e.g. targeting of skeletal metastases, imatinib in CML, targeted brain tumor irradiation, targeted therapy for lung cancer, cancer vaccines, and strategies for development of targeted therapies. The proffered papers section presents additional overviews and examples of the exciting new molecular aspects of cancer-targeted research.

The editors have indeed succeeded in translating both the versatility and the depth of the presentations into this richly illustrated (colours) book with an inviting layout. *This is a highly recommendable book!*

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A Practical Guide to Intensity – Modulated Radiation Therapy

Z. Fuks, S. Leibel & C. Ling, editors
Medical Physics Publishing, Madison, Wisconsin, 2003,
423 pp
ISBN: 1-930524-13-7
Price: USD 125.-. Hardback

This book is developed and written by one of the pioneering teams in Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT) at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre in New York. The authors are among the most renowned within the field and with this book they assembled an extensive document on the central issues of IMRT.

As IMRT is rapidly being implemented in radiotherapy clinics around the world, this book provides a valuable resource for physicists and oncologists currently implementing or attempting to implement IMRT in their clinics. The publication describes in detail physical aspects, such as commissioning, verification and

quality assurance. In addition, the book provides disease-specific treatment-planning strategies for for example prostate, nasopharynx and breast cancer. It is well structured and generously illustrated with a section of 46 colour plates. Furthermore, the authors provide descriptions of a series of important commissioning tests and also offer solutions to a number of known practical problems in treatment planning, verification and delivery of IMRT. In conclusion, with this book the authors have compiled an excellent guide for clinics moving into clinical IMRT.

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Cancer Incidence in Five Continents, Vol. VIII IARC Scientific Publication No. 155 (CD-ROM included)

D. Parkin, S. Whelan, J. Ferlay, L. Teppo & D. Thomas, editors
IARC, Lyon, 2003, 772 pp, numerous tables, graphs & charts
ISBN: 92-832-2155-9
Price: Euro 200.-.

This well-known series of reports on cancer incidence worldwide started 35 years ago to 'present data on cancer incidence for all populations in the world for which good quality data are available'. Volume 1, published 1966, contained data from 32 registries in 29 countries, and the present volume 8 presents data from 186 registries in 57 countries. It covers the time period 1993–1997. The lay-out of the book adheres to the format of its predecessors; presenting age-standardized rates by registry and age-standardized and cumulative incidence rates by cancer site (three digit). In addition, a CD-ROM presents data on age-specific cancer incidence and histologic type. Tumour site is coded according to the ICD-10 code, and morphology to ICD-O2 M. As usual, a large section of the book is devoted to description of cancer registration and validation giving specific details for each one of the participating registries.

This publication is an indispensable tool for information and inspiration for cancer epidemiologists and all other researchers in the field of cancer.

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