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Tumor Board—Case Management

D.P. Winchester et al., editors.
Lippincott-Raven, 1997, 788 pp., 579 illustrations
ISBN: 0-397-51340-2
USD 99.50

In *Tumor Board, Case Management* recent case histories of 152 patients that were presented at hospital based tumor boards are discussed.

The cases span a wide spectrum of clinical problems covering cancer cases in almost all anatomic sites, varying in different tumor stages. All cases are fully documented with x-rays, histologic slides and results of laboratory tests.

To emphasize the specific and often difficult aspects of multidisciplinary cancer treatment, the book contains not only standard cases in which there is agreement on treatment, but also a lot of cases for which precise treatment is not available. It is very helpful that the central problem of every case is mentioned in the contents.

The book follows a standard format. After a concise description of the history, physical findings, pretreatment evaluation and staging, the case continues with a multidisciplinary discussion about the pros and cons of the different treatment options followed by conclusive recommendations. It is important that in the commentaries the differences in the more American treatment approaches, for example in urologic cancers and in cancer of the rectum, are compared with the European treatment approaches not only related to the more organ saving approach in Europe, but also in the use of chemotherapy. It is a pity that the format of the board discussions is not the same in all cases.

Unlike the usual text books, *Tumor Board, Case Management* emphasizes on case orientated education. Although cases of individual patients are discussed, the treatment principles apply to similar cases encountered in real practice. The book therefore retains the reality of daily medical practice, using the principles of the future educational trend, which will be case orientated.

The book gives an excellent overview of modern multidisciplinary cancer treatment approach and is not only very useful for general specialists, but also for oncology orientated specialists. It is a must for all trainees in the field of oncology.

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Mammary Tumor Cell Cycle, Differentiation and Metastasis

K.B. Dickson & M.E. Lippmann, editors
Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1996, 448 pp.
ISBN: 0-7923-3905-3
NLG 525.-

This book on mammary cancer research covers a broad spectrum of basic research in rodents as well as in women. The first section describes in four reviews various mouse models for breast cancer. The second section has seven reviews on steroid receptors, signaling, and cell cycle regulation covering protein kinases and phosphatases, cyclins, nuclear oncogenes, as well as estrogens and progestins and their competitors. The last section describes biological subjects such as invasion, metastasis, angiogenesis, and immunology. The reviews are characterized by detailed and up-to-date information. Since the aim must be more information on human breast cancer, in my opinion, the book should have included a review on the extensive use of cell cultures of human breast epithelial cells as models for breast cancer in line with the comprehensive description of mouse models. The book is well written and very interesting reading. Apart from a few of the review articles the information given is very detailed with many references. The book is recommended for basic scientists in the field of breast cancer who want information broader than his/her specific research area. Although clinical research areas are not covered, I believe that selected chapters would be of great interest to clinicians who want a detailed review of specific areas of breast cancer research.

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