Book Review


The application of cytological methods for differentiation of various pathological conditions of tissue-specific cells is now well-recognized and plays a very important role in clinical medicine. This publication is quite successful in presenting the basic cytological distinctions between normal and abnormal state of human organ-specific cells. Throughout the book the author correctly stresses the importance of accurate characterization of normal cell properties for proper identification of abnormal cell properties. In the first five sections, the author describes in rather detail the various differentiation characteristics of normal, benign and/or malignant cells of the female genital organs, respiratory tract, stomach, urinary tract and of effusions. The characteristics of cells at a specific state are systematically presented and each section contains numerous photographic illustrations, majority of which are in color. The explanation of each photograph by an accompanying diagram is clear and easy to follow. The last section deals with the cytological techniques that have been applied in cytodiagnosis, mainly of smear slides. The author exercised considerable amount of caution in the interpretation and diagnosis of specific pathological conditions.

This book does not deal with any theoretical aspect of cytodiagnosis and, therefore, may appear to be less appealing to those who are interested not only in practical cytodiagnosis but in underlying principles as well. Undoubtedly, this publication will be of interest and will be very useful for cytotechnologists, physicians and cancer researchers who are interested in beginning routine cytogdifferentiation between normal and abnormal cells in various human tissues.