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Lung Carcinoma in the Era of Personalized Medicine: The Role of Cytology

Editors
Maureen F. Zakowski
Marluce Bibbo

This special issue of Acta Cytologica focuses on the role of cytology in influencing therapy, directing management, and uncovering new strategies in the complex field of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). With the discovery of the activating mutations in the epidermal growth factor receptor in 2004, a new era of personalized medicine in lung cancer began. Along with these discoveries came a new approach to the care of the NSCLC cancer patient with a direct impact on the practice of cytopathology. In an attempt to guide the cytopathologist and offer strategies to navigate this new era, this issue brings together data and techniques from international experts in diagnostics, testing, and new discoveries. New techniques are highlighted, including expanded use of immunocytochemistry and fluorescent in situ hybridization and use of laser capture microdissection in cytology. A view from interventional radiology, so important in obtaining specimens from cancer patients, is presented and a novel algorithm incorporating microRNA detection in these specimens is discussed. Telecytology as a way to diagnose remotely is explored. A look at NSCLC from the Asian perspective, which has taught us much about mutations and epidemiology, is included. A unique perspective from cytotechnologists who are often at the 'front line' of the battle against this disease is presented. These papers provide an in-depth look at the state of the art, as well as a guide to the future of cytology in the era of personalized medicine.

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Discoverer of numerous U.S. patents, recipient of several prominent research awards, Dr. James G. Fujimoto, principal investigator at MIT presents the Leopold Koss Lecture.

"CSI Meets Cytology" will be presented as the New Frontiers Lecture, by Dr. Bryan K. Knight of Queensland, Australia.

"CLIA '88 and Cytopathology: How Was Our Practice Affected?" will be the title of our Current Issues in Cytology session this year. Dr. Diane Davey will moderate panelists: Dr. Marshall Austin, Dr. George Birdsong and Ms. Sue Zaleski.

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of CLIA '88, investigative journalist, Walt Bogdanich, will present the Guest Lecture on his work at the Wall Street Journal on workload recommendations, immediately following Current Issues in Cytology.

"HPV Testing" is our Hot Topic session, moderated by Dr. George Birdsong.

Dr. Kristen Atkins moderates the State of the Art Symposium on "Guiding the Cells - The Cytologist's Role in Procurement, Diagnosis, and Molecular Studies of Lung Carcinomas and Mesotheliomas."

"Molecular Diagnostics in Cytology — Current Aspects and Future Considerations" will be the topic of Innovations and Trends in Medicine, with Dr. Jane Gibson moderating a panel of faculty.

Diagnostic Cytology Seminar co‐moderated by Dr. Mary R. Schwartz and Ms. Donna K. Russell, with panelists Dr. Yener Erozan, Dr. Rodolfo Laucirica, Dr. Savitri Krishnamurthy, and Ms. Maria A. Friedlander.

Strategies in Cytopathology Education will contain the new ACGME accreditation requirements affecting cytopathology program directors, in one session, as two parts. Strategies in Cytotechnology Education discusses the hot topic of "Entry-Level Competencies," along with "Gyn Self-Assessment."

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Human papillomaviruses (HPV) are a heterogeneous and still growing virus family. Topical research results on the replication cycle and carcinogenic mechanisms allow a better understanding of current prevention strategies. Written by leading experts, this volume of Monographs in Virology provides up-to-date information on the prevention of papillomavirus-induced cancers by prophylactic antiviral vaccines and early detection of precancerous lesions.

A major section covers the tremendous clinical burden due to HPV infections: genital warts and laryngeal papillomas, the most notorious cervical cancer, but also further anogenital and tonsillar cancer, the incidence of which increased steeply during the last decades. Additionally, a section on prevention addresses the subject cytology – new concepts of biomarker development, detection of HPV DNA and RNA as well as their use in primary screening for early detection of precancerous lesions. Finally the book closes with a topical discussion of the most intriguing primary prevention of HPV infection by vaccination.

As new perspectives for the prevention of HPV-related neoplasia raised great public interest, this book will be of value to clinicians and practitioners in gynecology, dermatology, urology and ENT, to pathologists, laboratory physicians, medical students, and public health authorities.

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The symptom of chronic constipation is often caused by a series of intestinal diseases, which can be reliably diagnosed histopathologically by histochemical techniques and consequently treated by surgical intervention. The following publication is the second and completely revised edition of Pathology of Chronic Constipation in Pediatric and Adult Coloproctology published in 2005, and introduces several new diseases and figures.

It includes characteristics of classical and ultrashort Hirschsprung's disease as well as total intestinal aganglionosis and hypoganglionosis. New diseases such as intestinal neuronal dysplasia, desmosis coli, leiomyopathy, architectural malformation, and stretching lesions of muscularis propria are critically discussed. Atrophic desmosis is also covered. This new and frequently observed degeneration of muscularis propria in Crohn's disease, sigmoid diverticulitis, and other inflammatory intestinal diseases causes focal aperistalsis, frequently interpreted as scar stenosis. Histopathology of Chronic Constipation provides a comprehensive overview of intestinal alterations which cause chronic constipation. It is therefore of special interest to diagnostic pathologists, clinicians, pediatric and abdominal surgeons, coloproctologists, and gastroenterologists.

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This monograph presents a detailed description of outstanding cytopathological lesions of the female genital tract. Twelve international experts in the cytopathology of glandular lesions cover the complete spectrum of this challenging subject. Genital glandular lesions, both benign and malignant, are an appealing field of cytopathology. Malignant lesions of the endocervix and endometrium are becoming more common all over the world, compared to squamous cell carcinoma. In situ and invasive endocervical adenocarcinoma, endometrial adenocarcinoma and endometrial hyperplasias are presented in this book. Additionally ovarian lesions focusing data obtained from detailed intraoperative studies and other areas of the genital tract, such as the vulva and fallopian tube, which are less known and thus have seen fewer publications, are also shown. The impact of the Bethesda System, as well as basic and ancillary techniques in the study of glandular lesions complete the monograph. This book will be of great use to cytopathologists, pathologists and cytotechnologists and to students of these specialities as it deals with the most common areas of their daily work.

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Cover Illustration
Malignant mesothelioma shows three-dimensional nuclei irregular in size, fine and deep staining of chromatin filled in the nuclei using nuclear three-dimensional analysis (Papanicolaou stain, ×40). From Washiya et al., pp. 509–515.