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When Dr. Thomas Karger suggested the need for a companion volume on brain tumor therapy to accompany the monograph on Brain Tumor Biology in this series on 'Progress in Experimental Tumor Research', we recognized the timeliness of his idea. We saw the value of gathering into a single reference source the experience of experts in the various areas of the field, many of which have never been combined in such a book.

This volume focuses on innovative therapies conceived and directed on the basis of the recent laboratory research findings. Its 15 chapters represent work that is being conducted in institutions actively engaged in brain tumor therapy. The authors review the areas of specificity of treatment, cytotoxic and noncytotoxic treatments, and local therapy. They describe new means of administering cytotoxic agents to improve the therapeutic index, discuss biological response modifiers, and review the status of local therapy with irradiation and hyperthermia. Rather than
merely summarizing work presented in previously published material, they include their speculations on the reasons for the success and failure of the individual therapeutic modality and its place among other methods. In compiling these chapters, we have asked the authors to review concisely the well-established data in their area and the completed results and published concepts underlying their own work. However, the primary emphasis in each chapter is the relevant preliminary findings in a particular area of interest that will serve as the basis for research over the next several years. We believe that this book and its companion volume will serve as a guide for future investigations and possibly new directions for brain tumor therapy.

Preface XIII

Our selection of the topics presented reflects personal bias, but selectivity was required because of necessary limitations on the volume's size. Several areas not represented here in which there recently has been significant progress are included in an appendix of selected readings, compiled with the aid of our authors to provide pertinent references that will supplement the work represented in the invited chapters. We hope that the reader interested in topics that are not covered will understand the restrictions of this or any other monograph concerned with evolving and rapidly changing clinical research.

M. L. Rosenblum and C. B. Wilson

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To our patients