

PREFACE

Why a book on cutaneous vascular proliferations? There are several compelling reasons to justify the existence of a book on this topic. One of the most important is that cutaneous vascular proliferations are exceedingly common and affect a large number of individuals of both sexes and within a wide age range. They make up a broad spectrum of lesions with morphological and biological variations, ranging from hamartomas to highly malignant, aggressive neoplasms. Although the diagnosis of some vascular lesions is straightforward, many entities pose significant problems in diagnosis, classification, and treatment. Within the past two decades there has been an increase in the number of patients affected with Kaposi's sarcoma, related to the epidemic of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). As a consequence, a number of variants and vascular lesions that simulate Kaposi's sarcoma, both clinically and histopathologically, have been described. In addition, other vascular entities not related to Kaposi's sarcoma have been introduced in the literature. All of these have added confusion to an already complicated field. Since there are no recent textbooks on this subject, we felt an update was overdue.

The aim of *Pathology of Vascular Skin Lesions: Clinicopathologic Correlations* is to provide a comprehensive and in-depth review of all vascular proliferations involving the skin and subcutaneous tissue, including recently described entities. Although our work is primarily directed to pathologists, dermatologists, and dermatopathologists, its wide scope will make it useful to pediatricians and plastic surgeons as well.

Pathology of Vascular Skin Lesions: Clinicopathologic Correlations is divided into three parts. The first part covers classification and nomenclature of vascular neoplasms, an area that is still controversial. We propose a new classification with the hope that it will bring more order into a chaotic arena. We recognize that this classification may have some pitfalls and limitations, but we also believe that it is the most logical way to approach the study of vascular proliferations.

In order to know what is abnormal, a student of the field should first know what is normal, which is the reason for including a chapter on normal embryology, histology, and anatomy of the skin vasculature. Another chapter is devoted to the use of special techniques for the study of vascular proliferations.

In the second part, we include benign proliferations ranging from hamartomas and malformations to benign neoplasms. The final part of the book deals with malignant vascular proliferations, ranging from Kaposi's sarcoma to angiosarcomas. It includes some new entities, too.

The whole of *Pathology of Vascular Skin Lesions: Clinicopathologic Correlations* was conceived in terms of a clinicopathologic correlation. The clinical and morphologic

aspects of each entity are described in detail, including their differential diagnosis, prognosis, and therapy. Each chapter is fully illustrated with both clinical and histopathologic photographs, and we include color versions of all illustrations on the accompanying CD-ROM. Additionally, there is a complete and updated list of references for each particular section. We hope that you find this book interesting and useful.

This book was sponsored in part by Pathologists Diagnostic Services, PLLC, in Winston-Salem, NC.

Omar P. Sangüeza, MD
Luis Requena, MD



<http://www.springer.com/978-1-58829-182-0>

Pathology of Vascular Skin Lesions

Clinicopathologic Correlations

Sangüeza, O.P.; Requena, L.

2003, XIII, 321 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-58829-182-0

A product of Humana Press