

PREFACE

This second edition of *Breast Cancer* marks a milestone in the M. D. Anderson Cancer Care Series, which now includes seven volumes. This second edition also serves as a reminder to us of the dramatic progress that is being made in molecular diagnostics and therapies for breast cancer.

A number of newer therapies have become available since the first edition of this book was published in 2001 and are discussed in this new edition. The preoperative systemic therapy approach long practiced at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is now being adapted to allow rapid evaluation of newer therapies with small numbers of patients. To reflect advances in the pathologic characterization of breast cancer, the first edition chapter "Serum and Tissue Markers for Breast Cancer" has been replaced by two chapters: "Serum Tumor Markers and Circulating Tumor Cells" and "Histopathologic and Molecular Markers of Prognosis and Response to Therapy." All the original chapters have been revised to include important new information. For example, this edition includes new data on tamoxifen and raloxifene in breast cancer prevention, MRI screening in breast cancer, and the integration of bevacizumab and trastuzumab into current therapy—topics that highlight developments in prevention, screening, and therapeutics, respectively. A number of new tables and figures have been added as well.

The success of this series in providing a resource to clinicians in the community and elsewhere is a tribute to its many contributors and also to M. D. Anderson's Department of Scientific Publications, where the series has been carefully nurtured by Walter Pagel and many scientific editors.

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