

Preface

This book is a short text directed primarily at residents in pathology. The aim is to provide a short text that captures the salient points of the most common problems in bone and soft-tissue pathology. The book does not replace the other more voluminous texts and references on the subject. With this aim in mind, the editors have included only the most important or diagnostic features of common musculoskeletal lesions with emphasis on established information. Newer but less established reports, papers, tests and data based upon limited numbers of cases or ongoing research have not been included. For brevity, the editors have not included references.

The book follows a systematic approach for instruction in bone pathology. Chapter 1 starts with anatomy that is pertinent to the understanding of bone pathology and includes some information on bone biology. Chapter 2 includes some of the most common specimens that a practicing pathologist is likely to see. Chapter 3 discusses arthropathies and has been written with a strong focus on the radiological aspects, since this is how the diagnosis on most arthropathies is made. Chapter 4 discusses bone infections. Chapter 5 introduces the complexities of metabolic bone disease to the reader and suggests several excellent texts which delve into the minutiae of how bone histomorphometric analysis is conducted. The last two chapters are focused on bone and soft-tissue tumors and contain the most important entities a resident or a practicing pathologist need to know.

Despite the focus on knowledge needed by residents in pathology, the book will also be of value to other individuals interested in the field of orthopedic pathology, including medical students, orthopedic surgeons, radiologists and practicing pathologists who do not see these cases on a day to day basis.

Philadelphia, PA
Baltimore, MD
Philadelphia, PA

Jasvir S. Khurana
Edward F. McCarthy
Paul J. Zhang

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Khurana, J.S.; McCarthy, E.F.; Zhang, P.J.

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