

# Preface

When I was a first year resident, I emerged from my first dermatopathology conference with only one thought in mind: I would never study dermatopathology. It was all too confusing. Everything looked alike, and the terminology was impenetrable. Never say never. Somehow I was able to overcome that first shock with the help of my colleague Dr. Cotton and my mentor Dr. Antoinette Hood. Several years later, I am now charged with teaching dermatopathology to residents and fellows as well as CME courses for practicing pathologists and other dermatopathologists.

This brings us to this book. Clearly, there are other much more encyclopedic dermatopathology textbooks out there than this relatively thin tome. So, why this book? Probably because I keep running into residents and practicing pathologists who have the same reaction I had when I first encountered the subspecialty of dermatopathology. There is hope. Dermatopathology is hard, but it is not as hard as it is made out to be. A quick weekend of reading this book should help demystify inflammatory dermatopathology. It is meant to be a practical resource, a survival guide if you will, for surgical pathologists and residents for the approach of inflammatory diseases of the skin. Most of the entities commonly encountered in daily practice are covered in this book, with an emphasis on practical points that are useful in everyday practice. To increase the practical usefulness, we have also included a novel aspect. While most pathology texts do an admirable job describing histologic features and discussing differential diagnoses, writing the report is an art never discussed. Therefore, to increase the usefulness of the text, we have also included sample reports at the end of each chapter to provide examples on how we approach signing out our cases. We hope you enjoy this book. More importantly, we hope you find it useful in your practice.

Inflammatory Dermatopathology

A Pathologist's Survival Guide

Billings, S.D.; Cotton, J.

2011, IX, 253 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-60327-837-9