

# Preface

The neoplasms found in the female genital tract are numerous and diagnostically growing more complex. Understanding gynecological pathology can be overwhelming. As an extension to comprehensive textbooks that are ubiquitous around sign-out microscope, this text has been written to provide a practical reference for practicing pathologists and cytopathologists in a quick and concise fashion. The primary focus of our book is on gynecological tumors, specifically common ones and their benign mimics, and every effort is made to integrate major diagnostic criteria with the ancillary studies. We hope we have made concrete the usually abstract dictum of gynecological pathology on both histological and cytological grounds. Understandably, as one of the highly complex pathology specialties, it is impossible to include every aspect of its ingredients in this compact reference book. Hematoxylin and eosin staining and immunohistochemistry remain the cornerstones of diagnostic gynecological pathology. This manual presents a logical approach to pathological diagnosis based primarily on conventional histology and cytology and assembles the most important diagnostic features of common

neoplastic entities of the female genital tract. The most common differential diagnosis is discussed when necessary. Many entities in gynecological pathology may have multiple names and variants, but an attempt has been made to present a concise approach to the diagnostic problem often reflecting opinions of the authors.

Throughout the book, the approach is simple and straightforward entity-based discussion of each diagnostic entity followed by cytopathology related to the whole group of disease under each chapter. Because of this practical approach and the concrete and accessible nature of the material, we believe that this text also forms the basis for a bridge course to introduce residents, fellows, and junior practitioners to the specialty practice of gynecological pathology.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of our mentors, past and current, who have been the major source of knowledge and courage in our academic careers. Our sincere appreciation goes to many colleagues and trainees in pathology at Yale University and University at Alabama, who have shared or presented many cases that provided the basis for this volume.

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Chhieng, D.; Hui, P. (Eds.)

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