Preface

The use of intraoperative evaluation of breast specimens has evolved over the years. This evolution has seen the days with answering the typical questions asked by the surgeons for any oncologic surgery, i.e., diagnosis of a mass lesion, evaluation of margins, lymph node status, etc. In the past, some special handing requests such as harvesting fresh tissue for biochemical hormone receptors were quite unique to breast tumors. In the current practice, most surgical pathology suites and frozen section laboratories spend considerable amounts of time dealing with breast specimens, which is the result of rising volume of breast specimens in part related to improved screening for breast cancer and more well-educated patients.

Frozen Section Library on Breast is written with the intention of providing a handy reference book on topics covered only in piecemeal fashion in textbooks dedicated to breast pathology. In the current practice, the most important intraoperative evaluation is the examination of sentinel lymph nodes for breast cancer, and the techniques used for their evaluation are discussed in detail. The difficulties associated with frozen section for other intraoperative questions, such as margin evaluation, diagnosis, are covered in the subsequent chapters. The protocols for gross examination of breast specimens with a mass or nonpalpable lesion are provided. Finally, the changes in tissue fixation and handling for specimens to be used for predictive factors and their effects on workflow and standard operating procedure of grossing areas in anatomic pathology are discussed, covering activities performed in the gross room dealing with all types of breast specimens.

This handbook is targeted to pathologists, both in academics and private practice, residents, fellows, and pathology assistants. For this reason, I had help and input from my assistants, Bing,

Michelle, Allison, and Erica, to whom I am greatly indebted. This work is also intended to serve as a handy reference to other trainees rotating in Pathology Department about the nuances of adequately handling breast specimens in a fashion that meets the increasingly complex environment of breast pathology. It is hoped that this work adds to current body of literature in breast pathology in general, and provides a unique and much needed reference in particular.

Columbus, OH Syed K. Mohsin, MD

http://www.springer.com/978-1-4614-0717-1

Frozen Section Library: Breast

Mohsin, S.

2012, XI, 112 p. 125 illus., 116 illus. in color., Softcover
ISBN: 978-1-4614-0717-1