
Preface

While many notable advances have occurred on the detection and characterization of minimal residual disease and circulating tumor cells in breast cancer, no book has ever summarized all the progress made until now. Here, we have invited leading investigators in the field to address relevant questions including:

- How can the study of minimal residual disease and CTCs help us to better understand breast cancer metastasis?
- What technologies are available for the detection and characterization of CTCs and DTCs, and what are their relative merits?
- What is the role of other blood-based biomarkers such as circulating endothelial cells and circulating nucleic acids?
- How are DTCs and CTCs relevant to clinical research and practice?
- What are the challenges in drug and biomarker co-development and the use of CTCs for companion diagnostic development?

We hope this book will be a reference for researchers and clinicians that are interested in minimal residual disease and circulating tumor cells in breast cancer and that it will further stimulate research in the field.

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