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## Preface

This Atlas represents a concise yet broad review of diseases and disorders that affect lymph nodes. It is intended to serve as a quick reference to pathologists and pathologists-in-training, medical oncologists, primary care physicians, and students interested in diagnostic non-neoplastic and neoplastic lymph node pathology. The Atlas is organized in parts and chapters that sequentially progress from infectious lymphadenitides to reactive lymphadenopathies and ultimately to neoplastic processes classified by cell of origin or differentiation. For neoplastic disorders of lymphoid or hematopoietic cells, we have followed the diagnostic categories of the 2008 World Health Organization classification and illustrated characteristic as well as variant features.

Despite best intentions, the cell-of-origin paradigm that forms the basis of the present classification of hematolymphoid neoplasms cannot be applied systematically to all disorders. In addition, current classification schemes have become more sophisticated, often necessitating the use of ancillary techniques and incorporating clinical features including the patient's genetic background, immune status, history of or underlying disorders, and geographical distribution. With this in mind, we contend that understanding the basic disease pathogenesis and emphasizing careful morphologic evaluation form a solid foundation for lymph node pathology in clinical practice. In no way do we wish to underemphasize the necessity and value of ancillary techniques for diagnosis, such as immunohistochemistry, flow cytometry immunophenotyping, conventional cytogenetics, fluorescence in situ hybridization, and molecular diagnostics. We only wish to remind the reader that the springboard from which these techniques are deployed in a judicious manner remains tissue morphology.

It is our hope that readers will find this Atlas practical and helpful. We have enjoyed the process of preparing it and sincerely hope it meets the reader's needs.

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