
Preface

Infectious diseases are leading causes of morbidity and mortality in patients with cancer due to the immunodeficiencies that are inherent to underlying malignancies and acquired as a result of cancer therapies. These infectious complications remain a significant limitation of cancer treatment modalities.

Infections continue to evolve in both predictable and unpredictable ways as a result of new potent immunomodulatory therapies, the resulting host immunodeficiencies, and anti-infective prophylaxis practices. As a result, the spectrum of infections, including the epidemiology of suspected pathogens, new pathogens, and anti-infective resistance, is continually changing. This provides constant diagnostic and therapeutic challenges for clinicians. Our objective for the second edition of this volume in the *Cancer Treatment and Research* series is to provide the reader with an updated review of the epidemiology, diagnosis, and management of infectious diseases that occur in cancer patients and hematopoietic stem cell recipients. This volume is intended for use by infectious diseases physicians, oncologists, medical specialists, and other professionals, in order to assist in the clinical care of this patient population.

The editors wish to thank the authors who generously contributed their time and expertise to this volume and who have dedicated their medical practices to the care of cancer patients.

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