
Preface

Breast cancer is now the leading cause of cancer in women worldwide and the most common cause of cancer-related deaths in women. Organized and opportunistic screening programs in the developed countries have resulted in a significant decrease in breast cancer mortality. Mammography, while not the perfect tool, is the best available and the only modality scientifically proven to be of value in reducing mortality from breast cancer based on data from multiple clinical trials. To obtain maximum benefit from mammography, highest quality is mandatory, and, rightly so, the quality of mammography is strictly overseen by a federal mandate in the USA. There is a need to further strengthen this mandate to optimize performance and interpretation of mammography. The ultimate goal of screening mammography is to find a high percentage of small, nonpalpable cancers while keeping the false positives at a minimally acceptable level. Technology of mammography has made steady progress, leading to improving sensitivity.

There has been an expanded role for sonography and MRI as supplemental tools in breast cancer screening and diagnosis. New technologies continue to emerge. Molecular imaging holds great promise in the imaging armamentarium, and, as our knowledge and understanding of tumor behavior and biology expand, this has particular relevance in being able to predict response to treatment.

This textbook is a synopsis of the current trends and practices in breast imaging. The chapters are organized and presented in a format that addresses the needs of residents in training, radiologists in practice, as well as physicians in the affiliated specialties of breast oncology and surgery. This book covers topics that include mammographic interpretation, postoperative breast, current and new technology in breast imaging, breast intervention with imaging pathological correlation, and the management of the symptomatic breast in young, pregnant, and lactating women. An excellent description of current and emerging technologies is provided by Drs. Svahn, Newell, and Holbrook in their respective chapters. The management of breast cancer is challenging and requires a multidisciplinary approach. This is discussed by Drs. Hunt and DeSnyder in their chapter on the multidisciplinary approach to breast cancer. Dr. Destounis and colleagues provide an overview of the operations and design of a comprehensive breast center. Each contributor is a recognized expert in the screening, diagnosis, and management of the breast cancer patient and has translated his/her experience and expertise into a well-written and informative chapter. The information provided in this text book will serve as a ready reference for Physicians involved in Breast cancer management.

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A Synopsis

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