
Preface

The goal of this book is to provide practicing surgical pathologists, dermatologists, cutaneous oncologists, Mohs' surgeons, and dermatopathologists with a single volume that reviews the clinical and pathologic features of rarely encountered cutaneous neoplasms. We have attempted to include an in-depth discussion of the clinical findings, as well as the histologic and (when required) immunopathologic features of these diseases. Additional data used to make and support the diagnoses is discussed for each entity as well as the prognostic parameters and some therapy notes.

The book is organized into general categories correlating with the cell(s) of origin for each group of neoplasms. The first section covers rare epidermal tumors. In this section, we discuss carcinomas that are not commonly encountered, foregoing any discussion of the very well known and described common tumors. A related chapter dealing with rare tumors of the cutaneous appendages follows. Subsequent chapters addressing rarely encountered melanocytic neoplasms, mesenchymal neoplasms (including those of soft tissue origin, muscle, and bone), neural and neuroendocrine tumors, and hematopoietic neoplasms involving the skin are followed by tumors that metastasize to the skin. For each entity, we have attempted to provide an atlas of clinical manifestations that will serve as a "bed-side" clinical reference, followed by a series of photomicrographs depicting the histologic changes. In all cases, recent updates on molecular tools helpful in attaining the diagnosis are added to the sections on histology and immunohistochemistry.

Many cutaneous neoplasms represent a part of a syndrome, often serving as the presenting feature. In such cases, the syndromes are explored in greater detail, with descriptions extending beyond the cutaneous lesions.

The underlying goal of the book is to serve as a useful reference book for all physicians that care for patients with cutaneous neoplasms. These cutaneous neoplasms may not even be well known to physicians specializing in skin disorders. It is our hope that the presentation of clinical photographs of rare entities and accompanying histologic photomicrographs will help such clinicians to arrive at appropriate pathologic diagnoses with resultant appropriate management. We hope that this volume will result in better diagnoses of such rarely encountered cutaneous tumors, and ultimately to better treatments and outcomes for our patients.

The authors have many friends and colleagues to thank for the creation of this work that centers exclusively on esoteric clinical entities. Dr. Rongioletti

would like to thank his coeditors, Bruce and Irina, for their dedication and efforts in the realization of this project; all the contributors for their expertise, hard work, and commitment; all the colleagues and friends for their encouragement; and his loving ladies, his mother and his perpetual fiancée, for their sweetness and patient. Dr. Smoller would like to express his sincere gratitude to Drs. Sara Shalin and Jerad Gardner, both from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, for their help in writing the manuscript and with finding many of the clinical pictures included in the volume. He would also like to express his extreme thanks to and love for his wife, Laura, whose undying patience allows him the time to allocate to endeavors such as writing this book. Dr. Irina Margaritescu would like to thank her family for their unconditional love and support. She would like to dedicate this book to them and especially to her precious little boy, Alexandru-Vlad. We all would like also to thank Richard A. Hruska for his support. If a doctor in any part of the world makes a correct diagnosis after looking at a picture or treat a patient in a proper way after reading a chapter or just a few lines of this book, our efforts have been well rewarded.

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Rare Malignant Skin Tumors

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