
Preface

Similar to other areas of oncology, the diagnosis and treatment of sarcomas are increasingly accomplished as a collaboration of a diverse team of subspecialists. This allows modern medicine to maintain a holistic and pragmatic approach when caring for cancer patients. However, the ability of physicians to effectively administer care in this manner largely depends on clear communication across specialty boundaries.

Soft tissue pathology encompasses a vast amount of neoplasms that are typically not unique to a particular anatomic location, and pathologists are increasingly incorporating an expanding catalogue of immunohistochemical and genetic tests when making a diagnosis. With this in mind, this book was written to give perspective in the diagnosis of soft tissue tumors to those practicing outside of pathology. In particular, this book will focus on the key characteristics of common soft tissue neoplasms and the approach taken to render a diagnosis. It will also cover critical aspects of soft tissue pathology that are encountered by a treating physician, such as tumor staging, intraoperative consultation, and considerations in processing soft tissue surgical specimens.

Many excellent reference books have been written to discuss soft tissue pathology in a comprehensive manner. By focusing on the interdisciplinary interactions involving soft tissue pathology, it is hoped that this concise booklet will be of value to oncologists, surgeons, medical oncology trainees, and mid-level providers by further facilitating meaningful communication in a team practice environment.

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