
Preface

Peptic ulcer disease (PUD) and colorectal cancer (CRC)—although distant in pathophysiology (and, somewhat anecdotally, also spatially)—take an important toll worldwide. It has been estimated that nearly 90 million new cases are noted every year for PUD and about 1.4 million for CRC. Early diagnosis and high-end treatment are crucial in both for their successful eradication, yet they are barely accessible in most countries, being a heavy economic burden.

In the modern world, PUD and CRC are practically inevitable: the first one because of widespread *Helicobacter pylori*, the major culprit for PUD propagation, and both because of environmental and societal factors that particularly heavily influence the development of the diseases. However, raising awareness of PUD and CRC epidemiology and factors underlying etiopathology and promoting a healthy lifestyle are believed to decrease—to some extent—the number of new cases.

Our goal when preparing this volume was not only to raise awareness and educate the patients but also to encourage the doctors to engage in this education. The best specialists in the field—both basic scientists and clinicians—were invited to comprehensively, yet in an informative manner, discuss the pathophysiology of PUD and CRC. We hope that this volume will become a useful guideline for both the patients and the doctors in PUD and CRC treatment as well as prevention.

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