Foreword

Only once in a while does a pathology book arrive on the scene that all diagnostic pathologists should own. *Color Atlas of Pulmonary Cytopathology*, by Sudha R. Kini, MD, is such a book. It can best be described as concise yet detailed. There is more useful information packed into its 15 chapters than seen in most books three times its size. Thus it gives me a great pleasure to contribute this foreword.

As I reviewed the manuscript prior to writing this Foreword, I was impressed by many unique features that I would like to share with you. The chapter covering the standard cytopreparatory techniques, specimen procurement methodology, and staining techniques contains detailed information that many pathologists once knew but have forgotten. It is a good refresher course and reference resource. Near the beginning of this chapter, Dr. Kini states a fact well known to experienced diagnostic pathologists, namely that communication between pathologists and clinicians is essential. It is akin to a favorite saying of one of my partners that the best special stain in pathology is a telephone call to the appropriate clinician. This chapter also contains especially useful information on the expected diagnostic yield from various specimen types, for example, FNA, BAL, and which type of specimen is most useful for making a specific diagnosis.

Another chapter discusses the anatomy, histology, and cytology of the normal components of the lower respiratory tract. The tables in this chapter are representative of the superb tables throughout this book. They are packed with detailed useful information and are easy to refer to.

One of my favorite chapters discusses nonneoplastic lesions. Perhaps this is because as the longer one practices diagnostic pathology, the more one realizes the difficulties in differentiating reactive nonneoplastic cells and tissue process from malignant ones. This chapter should be required reading for all pathology residents and pathologists. It also illustrates the extensive experience of Dr. Kini has and her exceptional understanding of the morphogenesis of disease processes as well as clinical features associated with such diseases. This chapter contains many pearls.

Several chapters dealing with the cytopathology of common and uncommon lung neoplasms have a standard format consisting of an introduction of the gross and histologic features of a given tumor followed by a detailed discussion of the cytopathologic findings. Specimens most likely to obtain diagnostic cells are discussed. The section on differentiating adenocarcinoma from epithelial mesothelioma is especially straightforward, detailed and honest. It provides the reader with a background and puts the cytopathology aspects in perspective. There is extremely useful information in all these chapters about specificity and sensitivity of cytologic findings and differential diagnoses.

There is useful immunohistochemical and ultrastructural information throughout the book. The book contains detailed chapters on the histology and cytopathology
of lymphoproliferative lesions of the lung and an unusual amount of detail on metastatic neoplasms to lung.

This book contains so much useful information that it could have been written without a single illustration. That is not the case however and, in fact, the color photographs are numerous and the quality is the best I have seen in any pathology book. As a result, this book will serve as a companion volume to another Springer-Verlag publication, *Pulmonary Pathology*, where due to size constraints, the chapter on pulmonary cytopathology had to be eliminated in current edition.

*A Color Atlas of Pulmonary Cytopathology* is a book that should not only be on the desk of all cytotechnologists/cytopathologists, but also on the desk of all pathologists/surgical pathologists and pulmonologists. This atlas reveals what many diagnostic pathologists already know, namely that cytopathology provides a superb insight into the morphology of neoplastic and nonneoplastic lung disease.

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