Book review

Atlas: The Diagnosis of Lymphoproliferative Diseases, Kewin Gatter and Georges Delsol (eds), Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2002. ISBN 0-19-850891-3

This book on the diagnosis of lymphoproliferative diseases discusses the various lymphoma entities as recognized by the recent WHO Classification, as well as some common reactive and infective diseases. The authors intended the book to be a practical guide in the pathological diagnosis of lymphoma and as such to be complementary to the International Agency for Research on Cancer fascicle on the WHO classification of haematopoietic and lymphoid neoplasia.

The authors have really paid a lot of effort in making this book as practical as possible. The book is very well illustrated and contains abundant, mostly good quality images illustrating the morphologic aspects of the diverse lymphoma entities. In addition, the book contains a lot of practical information on the immunohistochemical phenotyping of lymphoid tissue. The latter is still the most used ancillary method for the diagnosis of lymphoproliferative disease and as such the emphasis on this method in the book is to the point. The book contains a well-written introductory chapter on

immunohistochemistry and continues in the sections thereafter to illustrate each lymphoma entity with the most important immunohistochemical markers. The authors discuss the difficulties encountered with some stains and indicate the proper internal controls, e.g., the staining of endothelial cells for cyclinD1. Although the book contains a lot of information, the book is essentially an atlas and not written as an encyclopedia on lymphoproliferative disease and as such the description of the clinical and genetic features as well as treatment is rather summary. In addition, the references are not exhaustive.

In conclusion, the book is a practical guide which will certainly be of interest to the general pathologist dealing with lymphoproliferative disease in daily practice as well as to pathology residents during their training in haematopathology. The book may also be of use as a quick reference guide to the more experienced haematopathologist.

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