

FOREWORD

Despite recent advances in both diagnosis and treatment, cutaneous melanoma continues to represent a significant clinical challenge. In the United States, approximately 87,000 new melanomas will be diagnosed in 2017 and over 9,700 people are expected to die as a result of their disease. Unfortunately, the incidence of melanoma continues to rise. Although genetic risk is certainly involved, environmental risks are increasingly modifiable and, with enhanced outreach and knowledge sharing, a reduction of the incidence of cutaneous melanoma is a reasonable goal. Admittedly, melanoma is a preventable disease for many patients.

This book, edited by Drs. Farma and Ward, gathers a diverse and accomplished group of authors with expertise in both clinical and scientific aspects of melanoma development, diagnosis, and treatment. An exhaustive review of the entire spectrum of cutaneous melanoma is presented, including its epidemiologic background, diagnostic strategies, updated treatment approaches, and long-term management. Many of the therapeutic options developed in recent years have generated newfound enthusiasm among clinicians caring for patients with advanced disease. However, proper workup at the time of initial diagnosis is paramount, and patient outcomes can definitively suffer if the appropriate staging is compromised. As such, clinicians involved in the diagnosis or treatment of cutaneous melanoma must be familiar with the importance of available screening options, methods of clinical or histologic diagnosis, and the staging ramifications of disease discovery. This book provides a robust review of each of these elements and is recommended to anyone involved in the study or treatment of cutaneous melanoma.

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