



U. Fischer, F. Baum, S. Luftner-Nagel. Breast Cancer: Diagnostic Imaging and Therapeutic Guidance

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This volume is edited by Uwe Fischer, Friedemann Baum and Susanne Luftner-Nagel, all working at the Women's Health Care Center, Göttingen, Germany. It is therefore an expression of the experience of a single specialist centre with particular expertise in diagnosis and therapy of breast pathology.

The book is structured into three sections with a total of 239 pages, and includes 545 high-quality illustrations. In the first part (three chapters), after reference to the anatomy and physiology of the mammary gland and to the epidemiology of breast cancer, benign and malignant pathologies are discussed as an analysis of the various histotypes supported by macroscopic and microscopic histological images.

The second section is divided into five chapters that discuss nonimaging approaches (inspection, palpation) and the most important imaging options (mammography, ultrasonography, magnetic resonance). Achievable information and results are clearly explained with the support of numerous explanatory images. Techniques and methods are treated didactically, and clinical evaluation based on the critical interpretation of images is an important part of the content. The chapter dedicated to the imaging of various histotypes using different techniques is particularly interesting. Useful information for the evaluation of malignancy or for better interpretation of findings with ambiguous biological potential is provided. The last chapter is dedicated to biopsy and localization of breast lesions, with explanations of the procedures involved.

The last part of the book (seven chapters) begins with a chapter on prevention, includes a brief reference to male

pathology, and then focuses on the surgical treatment of breast cancer and the various options before and after surgery (chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and hormone and biological therapy), and also considers alternatives to surgical treatment. A chapter on breast reconstruction is also included. The last chapter, based on a multimodal approach to the patient, deals with the management of the organizational and clinical structures associated with mammary pathology, and also considers the importance of psychological counselling.

This book, in our opinion, is a useful manual for the physician with an interest in breast pathology, because it examines all the organizational, clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic steps in a comprehensive manner. The value of the publication is greatly increased by the 545 highly relevant images that enhance the reader's understanding of the topics covered. Surgeons, radiologists and oncologists will certainly find the book interesting and useful, since there are extensive chapters dedicated to the challenges they face in their daily work. Above all, fellows of these specialties will benefit from study of this volume because it provides a 360-degree review of a frequent pathology. Although radionuclide procedures are not extensively covered, the book may also be useful to nuclear medicine physicians and residents who may better understand the clinical scenario allowing them to suggest further clinical applications connected to radioguided surgery and positron emission tomography.

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