

Diagnostic pathology: blood and bone marrow

Foucar, Reichard, Wilson, Czuchlewski, Vasef, Zhang, Hunt, 2012, Amirsys, Canada

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This book is one of an excellent series. The philosophy behind this series is that concise information on the pathology is given in a point to point way. It is not a classic text book, nor an atlas, but something different: in many tables, lists, and figures, the key facts on a disease are given together with the relevant differential diagnosis. In the present book, many high-quality illustrations catch the eye, but what is more amazing is the very detailed and up to date information that is given. I use it almost on a daily basis, just to check a few facts which I was pretty sure of, but not completely; to see if I might want to add another test; or whether I am missing a differential diagnosis. I find my way very easily in the book, but wondered what residents feel. Therefore, I gave the book for a couple of weeks to the resident who is doing bone marrow pathology for the second time (see below).

Han van Krieken

As a resident, I am already familiar with the series of which this book is part of. I find the series fantastic in my daily work because it enables me to quickly find information about the main differential diagnostic issues and additional tests needed. It comes as no surprise that also this part about blood and bone

marrow lives up to my expectations. The use of bullets and enumerations rather than whole sentences guide me fast and directly to what I am looking for. The use of large fonts, clear headers, bullets, and colors throughout the whole book all contribute to its pleasant practical use. All lesions start with: terminology, etiology/pathogenesis, clinical issues, microscopic pathology, ancillary tests, differential diagnosis, and selected references. Key features are summarized, followed by images that also include differential diagnosis. Sometimes, a table is included with additional diagnostic and differential diagnostic criteria. The images are of high quality and the use of arrows indicating the lesions is very helpful. What this book offers me, that others lack, is that the differential diagnostic options are given right beside the images of the lesions. This often saves me a lot of time, one thing residents are usually short of.

One of the few minor shortcomings I encountered are the absence of images of *Leishmania*. Furthermore, there is no histologic classification of the severity of aplastic anemia. I would also prefer more images of immunohistochemical markers in normal bone marrow. In conclusion, a wonderful book, I would recommend to all my resident colleagues.

Iringo Kovacs

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