Book Review—Pulmonary Pathology, 2nd Edition

Lina Carvalho¹

Received: 6 October 2017 / Revised: 15 October 2017 / Accepted: 17 October 2017 / Published online: 2 March 2018
© Springer-Verlag GmbH Germany, part of Springer Nature 2018

The field of airways and lung pathology has evolved greatly in the last years, and current accomplishments in target therapy and personalized medicine have underscored the value of the molecular genetic aspects of pulmonary diseases. Critical knowledge of pulmonary pathology and adjacent tissues, including pleural, thymic, and mediastinal pathology, shapes the teaching programs of residents and pathologists with the aim of distinguishing the different conditions encountered in clinical practice. The 2nd edition of *Pulmonary Pathology* with its 24 chapters accomplishes this task with systematized criteria focusing on the core concepts of both common and rare neoplastic and non-neoplastic diseases.

The book is designed with precise histopathological descriptions (in correlation with clinical and radiological features), each of which is accompanied by two large colored images and concise fact-sheets and tables (in bulleted format) that guide the reader through the index to fast differential diagnoses. Morphology and common ancillary techniques remain the most helpful and worldwide used tool for lung pathologists. The present is definitely not an “instant” handbook of Pathology as indicated by the large number of references that are integral text components. Thus, the book is not only complementary but rather establishes a fundamental standard in learning morphological patterns for differential diagnoses in this field. Virtual microscope slides are available online enriching the teaching value of the book, and which both residents and practicing pathologists will find valuable aids.

The contribution of a large series of outstanding internationally recognized colleagues provides up-to-date information in the whole field of pulmonary pathology. The first three chapters form an introductory section, focusing on normal

anatomy and tissue artifacts, uses and abuses of lung biopsy, and pattern-based approach to diagnosis, followed by a distinct group of topics represented by the developmental and childhood diseases, including neoplasms. The main body of the book comprehensively encompasses the large variety of pulmonary involvement of infectious, vascular, and immune diseases described in a concise way and with a major focus of reaching the final accurate diagnosis. Environmental factors are also emphasized, since tobacco epidemics with its geographic and social variability and temporal evolution impacts enormously on pulmonary pathology. The inclusion of the WHO 2015 recommendations for the “usual lung cancers” chapter is a particularly useful update for the everyday practice. Inflammatory and neoplastic diseases of the pleura as well as other neoplasms are accurately described. The schemes related to interstitial lung diseases are very practical to approach one of the most enigmatic areas for investigators and students in pulmonology.

Of note, this 2nd edition of *Pulmonary Pathology* covers, in a highly systematized and comprehensive manner, the most updated immune and molecular basis that governs targeted therapy, an area of knowledge that pathologists are obliged to master in all fields, but particularly in lung diseases.

Last but not the least, the role of cytology and updated information on endobronchial ultrasound-guided needle aspiration is illustrated, as are liquid biopsies, currently becoming a necessary aid in the pulmonary pathologist routine for molecular diagnosis, and for re-evaluation and outcome monitoring. The book has not forgotten these key and advanced features of the pathologist armamentarium.

Dani S. Zander and Carol F. Farver

Pulmonary Pathology, 2nd Edition (A Volume in the Series: Foundations in Diagnostic Pathology)

Print ISBN 9780323393089

776 pp

£128.99

<https://www.uk.elsevierhealth.com/pulmonary-pathology-9780323393089.html>

✉ Lina Carvalho
lcarvalho@huc.min-saude.pt

¹ Institute of Anatomical and Molecular Pathology and University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal