

MD ANDERSON
CANCER CARE
SERIES

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MD ANDERSON CANCER CARE SERIES

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Editors

Oncologic Emergencies

 Springer

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Foreword

Oncologic Emergencies is a new addition to the MD Anderson Cancer Care Series. The focus of this book is on oncologic emergencies in cancer patients and survivors. The chapters are written by clinicians at our institution who have a wealth of knowledge and experience related to the medical care of acutely ill cancer patients.

For more than 70 years, our institution has been devoted to the eradication of cancer. Initially, our acutely ill cancer patients received medical care in a small ward. Over the past seven decades, our institution has grown and evolved, and we now have the largest emergency center in a comprehensive cancer center. Our emergency center is a unique facility where our patients receive treatment for a wide spectrum of emergencies. Some of the patients are acutely ill owing to conditions related to their cancer or cancer therapy. Others need medical care for comorbid conditions unrelated to their malignancies but that can be equally life-threatening. All of this care occurs in an environment where both patient safety and empathy are of great importance.

I recommend this book to anyone who is ever faced with an acutely ill cancer patient or survivor. The reader will become equipped with valuable knowledge related to the evaluation and treatment of these emergencies and in turn will be able to provide the best care possible for his or her patients.

Houston, TX, USA

Ronald A. DePinho, MD

Preface

With the advancing age of our population coupled with an increase in the incidence of cancer along with progress in cancer care, health care professionals are faced with an increasing number of emergencies in cancer patients and survivors. This new addition to the MD Anderson Cancer Care Series will hopefully be a good resource for clinicians in the emergent and urgent settings.

This book is composed of 17 chapters, each of which is devoted to a specific topic. The authors who contributed to this book are adept clinicians with extensive experience in this realm of patient care. The chapters range from cardiac and neurologic emergencies to palliative care and ethical issues. The chapters are structured to be helpful resources to busy clinicians faced with acutely ill patients. Each chapter ends with a series of key practice points along with a list of useful suggested readings.

The evaluation and treatment of oncologic emergencies is evolving into a unique discipline. Clinicians providing medical care to patients experiencing these emergencies can be faced with challenging clinical scenarios. This book will hopefully be a beneficial tool in the effort to provide the best care possible for these patients.

Houston, TX, USA

Ellen F. Manzullo, MD, FACP

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