



Book Review

Shah JP. *Cancer of the Head and Neck. American Cancer Society Atlas of Clinical Oncology.* Hamilton, Ontario: B.C. Decker, Inc; 2001. 480 pages. Casebound, \$199 US, \$299 CDN.

The American Cancer Society's Atlas of Clinical Oncology has recently published a new text titled *Cancer of the Head and Neck*. This text is authored by multiple experts in the field of head and neck oncology and is edited by Jatin P. Shah, MD, Chief of the Head and Neck Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York.

The volume covers extensive topics in head and neck oncology including (1) epidemiology and etiology, (2) pathology, (3) tumors at specific subsites, (4) management of cervical metastasis, (5) unusual tumors of the head and neck, (6) reconstructive considerations, and (7) adjuvant treatment options. Further details and specifics regarding head and neck cancer need to be found in a more exhaustive text. While the text is by no means extensive in its discussion of details for most of the major subsites, the salient points for each of these tumors are clearly described.

Contributors to this text are diverse and well versed in the management of head and neck cancer, with many recognized experts in the field. The majority of the authors hail from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Specific chapters that are particularly well organized, well written, and well illustrated include pathology of head and neck tumors and tumors of the oropharynx. Diagrams provided throughout the text provide useful information on survival and prognosis.

The chapters on laryngeal disease suffer from inadequate discussion on nonsurgical management of laryngeal carcinoma. However, the illustrations and photographs demonstrating the surgical resection of glottic and supraglottic early-stage carcinomas are superb. Recent management trends have embraced chemoradiation protocols in many institutions.

In addition to the discussion of aerodigestive tract squamous cell carcinoma, topics are covered that go beyond garden-variety squamous cell carcinomas. These include chapters on salivary tumors, thyroid and

parathyroid tumors, and neurogenic and vascular tumors. Also included are good discussions of glomus tumors, paragangliomas, and tumors of the soft tissue and bone, including osteogenic sarcomas of the head and neck. Most of the chapters contain color photographs that add to the quality of the individual chapters and overall text. The chapter on thyroid and parathyroid tumors is a brief but good overview and review of the diagnosis and management of thyroid cancers.

The book includes a CD-ROM containing the complete text and illustrations of the book in fully searchable PDF files. It would be a welcome addition to the library of both residents and head and neck oncology fellows who are interested in a detailed reference textbook.

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