



Book Review

Carroll PR, Grossfeld GD, eds. *Prostate Cancer*. American Cancer Society Atlas of Clinical Oncology. Hamilton, Ontario: BC Decker Inc; 2000. 400 pages. Hardcover, \$159.00 US.

Prostate Cancer, edited by Peter R. Carroll and Gary D. Grossfeld, is one in a series of books sponsored by the American Cancer Society that focus on specific cancers. Forty-one contributors, 29 of whom are faculty members from the University of California, San Francisco, participated in writing this comprehensive text on various aspects of prostate cancer. The text is written clearly, and the 28 chapters cover in detail the most important aspects related to prostate cancer.

The first 11 chapters address the epidemiology, pathology, molecular genetics, role of stroma, in vitro and in vivo models, anatomy, tumor markers, detection, imaging, staging, and natural history of prostate cancer. A review of epidemiology discusses the incidence of prostate cancer as well as current trends in incidence and mortality. The role of sex hormones, insulin-like growth factors, smoking, body size, physical activity, occupational exposure, vasectomy, and diet are also discussed. Another chapter provides a comprehensive review of the pathologic features of prostate cancer and also addresses the controversy on prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia. State-of-the-art knowledge on oncogenes, tumor suppressor genes, telomerase, growth factors, DNA methylation, and the androgen receptor is included, and another section addresses the role of the stroma in the growing body of evidence implicating this structure as an important promoter of tumor progression.

A chapter on in vitro and in vivo models describes the attributes and drawbacks associated with specific prostate cancer models. Other chapters focus on the intrinsic and topographic anatomy of the prostate, the importance of the sphincteric mechanism and the neurovascular bundles, and the different permutations of the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) and its use in diagnosis, staging, and follow-up of patients with prostate cancer.

A chapter on detection is dedicated to the evaluation of different prostate biopsy techniques and the realization that at least 8 to 10 biopsies should be obtained to appropriately evaluate for the presence of

cancer. Other sections focus on imaging techniques, staging, and the natural history of the disease. The authors conclude that mortality due to prostate cancer in untreated men who live 10 years or more is excessive, even in patients with low-grade, low-stage disease at diagnosis.

Additional chapters in the book focus on treatment modalities for early prostate cancer such as radical retropubic prostatectomy, radical perineal prostatectomy, laparoscopic prostatectomy, and different forms of radiation therapy. Newer focal therapies such as cryosurgery, thermal ablation, and high-intensity focused ultrasonography (HIFU) are also discussed. Also included are discussions on hormonal therapy and systemic chemotherapies and an excellent review on PSA recurrence after definitive treatment. The final five chapters focus on the bone microenvironment, complementary and alternative medicine, erectile dysfunction after treatment, and management of bladder and bowel disorders after treatment and palliative care.

Prostate Cancer should become an important reference for the researcher and clinician dealing with prostate cancer.

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