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# Practical Atlas of Breast Pathology

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Simona Stolnicu • Isabel Alvarado-Cabrero  
Editors

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 Springer

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*To my family, for their endless love and support to achieve an academic career.*

*Simona Stolnicu*

*To my mother, who taught me the love for reading.  
To my siblings for the shared adventures.  
To you.... the wind beneath my wings.*

*Isabel Alvarado-Cabrero*

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## Foreword

As the title indicates, this breast pathology atlas is focused on providing the reader with a practical approach to breast pathology. The editors have assembled an international group of breast pathology experts who present up-to-date criteria for diagnosis and differential diagnosis of breast lesions. Succinct text is accompanied by numerous illustrations. The focus of the atlas is, as it should be, on diagnosis of breast lesions using hematoxylin- and eosin-stained sections, but the role of adjunctive studies to aid in diagnosis is emphasized and illustrated where appropriate. Important contemporary issues such as core needle biopsy (with an emphasis on the importance of radiologic–pathologic correlation), sentinel lymph node biopsy, and treatment-related changes are each addressed in their own chapters, as are the role of immunohistochemistry in breast pathology, prognostic and predictive factors, and molecular pathology basics. This atlas should serve as a useful, easy-to-use resource for pathology trainees and practicing pathologists alike.

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## Preface

In recent decades, there has been remarkable progress due to many changes and discoveries that have been published in the breast pathology field. Diagnosis of breast lesions has become challenging for pathologists, but also very important concerning the impact on the patient's treatment and, consequently, on survival.

There are many breast pathology textbooks available on the market that often present exhaustive information. Our book is an atlas, designed as a practical approach for understanding and practicing breast pathology through pictures.

This atlas is mainly dedicated to trainees and practicing pathologists in surgical pathology with an interest in breast pathology and tackling the daily sign-out. This easy-to-use practical guidebook explains how to tackle the diagnosis, emphasizing diagnostic clues for each entity as well as pitfalls and mimickers. This is the reason why each chapter includes short and concise text mostly illustrated with numerous high-quality pictures with explanatory legends highlighting the pearls and pitfalls in the diagnosis of breast lesions. This manner of presentation will help readers quickly assimilate the essential information about all breast lesions.

We have included the most important and frequent benign and malignant lesions of the breast. We have also included a separate chapter dedicated to normal breast anatomy and histology, which is very important for understanding breast pathology, and a separate chapter for breast radiology–pathology correlations, which is essential in understanding and diagnosing the breast lesions especially in a multidisciplinary team. We dedicated a special chapter to the core needle biopsy with radiological–pathological correlations since breast lesions are diagnosed using this method in most medical centers all over the world. Additionally, because cytology is still used in many breast units to diagnose breast lesions, we have added a chapter dedicated to this technique, which is easy to apply and cheaper compared to others, although sometimes it has its limitations. Sampling is essential in breast pathology and for this reason we have demonstrated the grossing method in a separate chapter. The molecular classification and its surrogate immunohistochemical evaluation have completely changed the diagnosis and treatment for breast carcinoma, which is why we have dedicated special chapters to these topics.

We hope that both pathologists and clinicians with a particular interest in this area will find this book interesting.

Tîrgu Mureş, Romania  
Mexico City, Mexico

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