

BOOK REVIEWS

Molecular pathology of gynecologic cancer. Antonio Giordano, Alessandro Bovicelli, Robert Kurman (Eds). Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA, 2007, pp 313, ISBN 978-1-58829-453-1

The study of molecular oncology has resulted in an increased understanding of specific genetic errors that impede the transfer of cellular information required for cell processes such as replication, differentiation, and cell death. This knowledge has enabled researchers to identify molecular targets for destruction so that tumoral cells can be eradicated without significant damage to healthy cells. *Molecular Pathology of Gynecologic Cancer* focuses on putting successful molecular strategies into practice for the treatment of gynecologic cancer. The volume begins with an explication of the editors' hypothesis that cancer is mainly a disease of the cell cycle, based on the deregulation of the physiological process of cell reproduction. The following eleven chapters focus on specific issues in gynecologic cancers, including: a proposed model of ovarian serous carcinogenesis, molecular markers for ovarian epithelial cancer, an overview of the pathology of endometrial cancer, molecular genetic aspects of endometrial carcinoma and cervical cancer, a natural history of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) as it relates to cervical cancer, and hereditary issues in gynecologic cancers. The concluding chapter proposes and outlines a holistic approach to the treatment of female cancer patients. Each chapter is presented by leaders in the molecular treatment of gynecologic cancers, and their collected insights and research presentations provide an innovative multi-disciplinary approach to gynecologic oncology. This new volume in Humana's Current Clinical Oncology™ series will be necessary reading for clinicians and experimental researchers alike.

Cytokines in the genesis and treatment of cancer. Michael A Caligiuri, Michael T Lotze (Eds). Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA, 2007, pp 482, ISBN 978-0-89603-820-2

Cytokines in the Genesis and Treatment of Cancer provides a comprehensive picture of the dual role of host responses in promoting and inhibiting tumor progression. This volume represents an important investigation into the emerging intersection of cancer biology and cancer immunology. Divided into four sections, the volume's first three parts focus on cytokines in the genesis of cancer. The final section describes the notable progress - both in animal models and humans - in demonstrating the use of cytokine or anticytokine therapies for the prevention and treatment of cancer. *Cytokines in the Genesis and Treatment of Cancer* brings together an impressive array of internationally distinguished investigators who

are devoted to the study of cytokines and cancer. Together, they produce an insightful, comprehensive discussion of cytokines and cancer that will serve as the perfect reference for all those working in the field.

This new volume in Humana's series will be necessary reading for researchers, oncologists, pharmacologists, radiotherapists.

Gene therapy for cancer. Kelly K Hunt, Stephan A Vorburger, Stephen G Swisher (Eds). Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA, 2007, pp 600, ISBN 978-1-58829-472-2.

The possibility of treating cancer, a disease frequently defined by genetic defects, by introducing genes that target these very alterations has generated tremendous enthusiasm. This enthusiasm, however, has been tempered by an increasing number of obstacles to successful therapy. These include vector systems that do not reach systemic metastases, therapeutic genes with redundant mechanisms allowing for cellular resistance, and toxicities in clinical trials that result in premature closure.

The three comprehensive sections of this volume present currently available cancer gene therapy techniques, with specific attention to these trouble spots.

Part I describes the various aspects of gene delivery. In Part II, the contributors discuss strategies and targets for the treatment of cancer. Finally, in Part III, experts in clinical gene therapy trials discuss the difficulties inherent in bringing gene therapy treatment for cancer to the clinic. Also in this part principal investigators present gene therapy approaches in the clinical testing stage and the results that have reached the stage of clinical testing.

This new volume in Humana's series is written for oncologists, hematologists, cancer researchers, geneticists.

Adenovirus methods and protocols. Volume 1: Adenoviruses, Ad vectors, quantitation, and animal models. William SM Wold, Ann E Tollefson (Eds). Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA, 2007, pp 256, ISBN: 978-1-58829-598-9.

Adenovirus methods and protocols. Volume 2: Ad proteins and RNA, Lifecycle and host interactions, and phylogenetics. William SM Wold, Ann E Tollefson (Eds). Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, USA, 2007, pp 362, ISBN: 978-1-58829-901-7.

Adenovirus methods and protocols, Second Edition, now in two volumes, is an essential resource for adenovirus (Ad) researchers beginning in the field, and an inspirational starting point for researchers looking to branch into new areas of Ad study. In addition to updating and

expanding important chapters from the first edition, the authors have added new chapters that address innovative, exciting areas of emphasis in Ad research, including Ad vector construction and use, real-time PCR, use of new animal models, and methods for quantification of Ad virus or virus expression/interactions. Each of the protocols presented in these volumes is written by trendsetting researchers in their respective areas of expertise.

Volume 1 addresses several important techniques for construction of adenoviruses for use as vectors and for

basic research. Highlighted topics include deletion mutants, capsid modifications, insertions, and gene replacements in human, murine, bovine, and ovine adenoviruses. In *Volume 2*, the authors focus on methods that elucidate and quantitate the interactions of Ad with the host. Each of the protocols in these volumes provides a general introduction, followed by tried-and-true step-by-step methods. Both novice and experienced researchers will reap tremendous benefit from these groundbreaking volumes in Ad research.