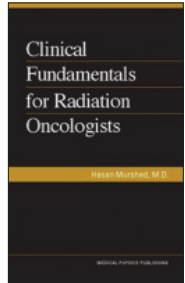


Clinical Fundamentals for Radiation Oncologists

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Publishers: Medical Physics Publishing, Madison, Wisconsin
Publication date: October 2011
Price: \$90.00



The present handbook is an upgraded version of the author's 2006 publication "Clinical Fundamentals for Radiation Oncology Residents". This new book will not only help radiation oncology residents but also students in other fraternities during examinations as well as practitioners in their clinics for a quick review.

The field of radiation oncology requires an integrated knowledge about clinical radiation oncology as well as basic physics, radiobiology and relevant statistics. Due emphasis has been given to cover these aspects in a comprehensive way in part I of the text. The addition of a chapter on molecular biology reflects its increasingly important role in day-to-day practice.

The chapters in Part II read as a summarized text cum guidelines on the management of common cancers. The radiotherapy planning aspect also incorporates the latest technique with special emphasis on intensity modulated radiotherapy contouring and planning. Part III includes chapters on palliation, oncological emergencies and radiation side effects which are precise and well written. It may appear to the reader that all aspects including a detailed contouring and planning overview have not been covered, but this was not the mandate of the book to begin with. Overall content of the book actually does manage to capture the spirit of simplicity and quick reference,

the original objectives of the book. The author may however consider incorporating simplified flow charts to address the key management issues for various sites.

The graphs, tables, photographs are quite informative and easy to understand. We are quite impressed with the pictures showing the DRRs, which will also interest the physicists and technicians during treatment delivery. The highlight of the book is a summary of landmark publications at the end of every chapter. The collated evidence is well researched and up to date. It will certainly help busy residents and practitioners to gain a quick perspective about the related evidence and possibly save the time of reading a full article. The printing and publications are of high standard except for a few odd spelling mistakes.

In the end, we commend the author for his efforts and we have a feeling that this book will find its place in the clinics as well as libraries of centers with oncology discipline. We strongly recommend this book to be considered by the departments to be also kept in the simulator, planning rooms for a quick and ready reference for therapists and technicians. It is obvious that each center need not go by the suggestions in entirety but take it as guidelines and have the flexibility to modify the same as per their local resources and need.

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