Book Review

Douglas A. Levine, Richard R. Barakat, Nadeem R. Abu-Rustum, 2008. *Atlas of Procedures in Gynecologic Oncology*, Second Edition. Informa HealthCare, London, UK. 320 pp. Hardbound, ISBN: 978-0-418-21732-0

This atlas gives an optimal explanation of gynecologic oncologic procedure by abundant color pictures and detailed descriptions. As the first edition has extended the understanding of the gynecologic oncologic surgery, this renewal is also expected to give an up-to-date knowledge including minimally invasive surgery and robotic operation.

This is a 320-page book, measuring 28.5×21.4 cm, with an accompanying DVD of live surgical footage. The authors are Douglas A. Levine, Richard R. Barakat, and a new author of second edition; Nadeem R. Abu-Rustum from Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; famous for gynecologic oncologic surgery as well as one of the leading cancer institutions in the world.

The book has three parts that dealt with open procedures, minimally invasive procedures, and related surgical procedures. We can easily find some interesting subjects such as extraperitoneal lymph node dissection, panniculectomy, hand-assisted laparoscopic splenectomy and urologic procedures. The authors made it clear at the first edition that their primary goal is to providing a detail of major procedures associated with gynecologic oncologist and this object is maintained at the second edition. In this edition, authors mention that they

have updated or replaced over 30% of material from the first edition. Absolutely, they made every effort to give a detailed overview of the major procedures as well as advanced procedures currently performed only at specialized centers throughout the world.

Most of the gynecologic oncologic procedures are covered with clear and concise instructions as well as 800 color photographs in a step by step format. It is very helpful to meet the real surgical sight by high-qualified pictures. From picture to picture, the surgical procedures are chained each other and eventually make a beautiful completion of surgery. The complementary DVD disc is also a great appendix, providing over one hour of video clips with spoken commentary. The video covers new subject such as panniculectomy, extraperitoneal lymph node dissection and fertility-sparing radical trachelectomy which are very detailed and informative.

Conclusively, this book can serve as an excellent visual guidance of gynecologic oncologic surgeon, and can give very informative lecture for not only medical students or surgical trainees, but also senior practitioners. In addition, I am sure that this book will complete the surgical library of gynecologic oncologic surgeons, wanting to expand their skill and knowledge with great curiosity.

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