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Book review

P. Ganjei-Azar, M. Jorda, A. Krishna, *Effusion Cytology – A Practical Guide to Cancer Diagnosis 2011*, Demos Medical Publishing LLC, 11W, 42nd Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY10036, USA (2011). pp. 192, Paperback, Price-\$5\$, ISBN: 13 9781933864655

The presence of malignant cells in body cavity fluids commonly indicates an advanced cancer stage associated with poor prognosis. The detection in effusions is extremely important and presents a challenging task. There is an urgent need to reduce the high false negative rates of conventional cytology by using a simple systematic approach to the diagnosis of malignancy, the potential subclassification of the neoplastic process and by determining the site of origin whenever possible. The authors have used a practical and simple approach for the diagnosis of malignancy in effusions including a primer on the most effective use of immunocytochemistry (ICC) with small panels of antibodies for select cases.

This book emphasizes on easily accessible diagnostic clues. Initial chapters offer an introduction and discussion on cellular content of pleural, peritoneal, and pericardial effusions. General diagnostic criteria used to differentiate benign from malignant cells are discussed along with detailed list of the types of malignancies found in effusions. Major differential diagnoses such as adenocarcinoma versus reactive mesothelium and malignant mesothelioma are covered. Next few chapters explain the detection of primary tumor site based on morphology, site of sample and patients' gender. Chapter 6 is dedicated to cerebrospinal fluid cytology. Sample collection, fixation, and preparation of slides for ICC are

discussed. Illustrated examples and the basic cytodiagnostic criteria of malignant cells and their markers as well as pointing out the pitfalls in the use of ICC have been covered lucidly. Tables listing the differential expression of specific markers for the diagnosis of various types of tumors are shown. Last chapter briefly discusses flow cytometry as a diagnostic tool for detection of malignant cells in body cavity fluids. Examples of flow cytometric data used to identify malignant cells on the basis of their DNA aneuploidy and tumor cell associated markers' expression are discussed.

This book will serve as a practical text for the budding and practicing pathologists, who face daily diagnostic dilemmas in effusions cytology, requiring the use of ICC. Cross-references are extensive and are intended to help the reader without having to read preceding chapters. A short list of suggested readings complement each chapter for further information.

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