Atlas of Lymphoid Hyperplasia and Lymphoma is a beautifully illustrated atlas of neoplastic and reactive lymphoid processes in lymph nodes and selected extranodal sites. The book is divided into seven chapters encompassing normal lymph node histology and immunohistology, reactive lymphoid hyperplasias, lymphomas as compiled in the Revised European American Lymphoma (REAL) classification, and lymphoid hyperplasia and lymphoma in abnormal immune states.

The first chapter succinctly describes and illustrates the structural components and cells present in benign lymph nodes. Along with providing the basics for the novice, the chapter serves as a good review for the experienced hematopathologist by providing the immunologic basis for cellular changes with their associated cell types and immunophenotypes.

The second chapter describes reactive lymph node hyperplasias by disease entity rather than the common arrangement by lymph node pattern. The purpose of the atlas is to provide a quick reference guide to the diagnosis of lymph node disorders, and this manner of presentation facilitates that goal. All reactive disorders with their spectrum of changes are obviously not covered, as this could fill an entire book by itself. Instead, examples of common infectious diseases, autoimmune disorders, histiocytic lesions, and miscellaneous processes, such as Castleman’s disease and Kimura’s disease, are pictured with a description of clinical and morphologic features, differential diagnosis, and immunophenotype and genetic features when appropriate.

The highlight of this book is the section on lymphomas, utilizing the REAL classification. That this topic is particularly well covered is not surprising given that Nancy Harris was instrumental, as part of the International Lymphoma Study Group, in proposing the new lymphoma classification and terminology. For those pathologists and students who want a firm understanding of this relatively new, but widely used, lymphoma classification, this book is a must. The format and descriptions mirror what is in the original proposal by this group (Blood 84:1361–1392, 1994), with a report of clinical features, morphologic features, immunophenotype and genetic features for each lymphoma classified. However, this book also pictorially illustrates in depth the different lymphomas and expands and updates the descriptions. In this more detailed text, a differential diagnosis is provided, special studies most useful in making a diagnosis are discussed, and more information on morphologic findings in extranodal tissue, particularly bone marrow, is given. Updated information includes a change in terminology for some of the entities, such as nasal/nasal-type T/NK-cell lymphoma vs angiocentric lymphoma, and inclusion of lymphomas that are not in the REAL classification, such as T-cell rich B-cell lymphoma and primary effusion lymphoma. Excellent tables summarize clinical and pathologic features of B-cell neoplasms and T-cell and T/NK-cell neoplasms, allowing for quick review of pertinent information for the practicing pathologist and for the hematologist or pathologist studying for boards.

The sixth chapter discusses reactive and neoplastic lymph node findings in patients with congenital immunodeficiency syndromes, chromosome breakage syndromes, human immunodeficiency virus infection, and post-transplantation lymphoproliferative disorders. The seventh and last chapter reviews hematologic disorders, such as granulocytic sarcoma and mast cell disease, that can mimic lymphoma. The format for these 2 chapters is similar to the previous chapters.

The atlas has numerous color photomicrographs of H&E, Giemsa, cytochemical, and immunohistochemical stained histologic sections, and Wright-Giemsa stained
peripheral blood and bone marrow aspirate smears. The specialized stains on histologic sections are exemplary. Gross photographs are included in many sections. In this first edition, the authors did an excellent job of bringing together illustrative photographs. One can only expect that the photomicroscopy, particularly of peripheral blood and bone marrow specimens, will get better in future editions and that the few black-and-white photographs and poorly stained tissue sections will be replaced with better examples. The use of more arrows in the earlier chapters would also help to highlight features of importance.

This book is highly recommended to the general pathologist, pathology resident, or hematologist/oncologist as a concise reference guide to recently described lymphomas and the REAL classification. Sufficient detail is provided to be useful to the practicing hematopathologist as well. The inclusion of reactive lymphoid processes is a bonus in this reasonably priced atlas.

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Shortly after I first read this book (mostly on airplanes to and from the USCAP meeting), I received a telephone call asking me to review it for the Journal. Since I had already been making a pest of myself by urging all of my colleagues to read Dr. Rosai’s wonderful book, I was delighted to have the opportunity to practice my advocacy on a larger audience.

Dr. Rosai notes that “the few books that have been written about American pathology mention surgical pathology and [its] practitioners only fleetingly, and often as an afterthought.” This book fills that void admirably. It consists of 11 chapters: 2 introductory ones on the general subject of the origin and evolution of American surgical pathology, by Dr. Rosai and Dr. Robert E. Fechner, respectively; 7 chapters devoted to the history of surgical pathology at particular institutions that have been in the forefront in the development of the specialty (Johns Hopkins, by Darryl Carter; Columbia University, by Raffaele Lattes; Memorial Sloan-Kettering, by Leopold G. Koss and Philip H. Lieberman; the Harvard hospitals, by Robert E. Scully and Austin L. Vickery, Jr.; Washington University and Barnes Hospital, by Louis P. Dehner and John M. Kissane; the Mayo Clinic, by Lewis B. Woolner; and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, by Kamal G. Ishak); and 2 chapters of autobiographical notes of 2 of the giants in the field, Arthur Purdy Stout and Lauren V. Ackerman.

Although some might quibble with the inclusion of some institutions and the exclusion of others, they seem well chosen to me, especially since most of the events and individuals covered are representative of the first half of the century. The chapters all make for good reading (on an airplane or anywhere else), and the last 2 autobiographical chapters are especially fascinating. The authors of the others are all pathologists with long associations with the institutions they are memorializing, and their chronicles are, for the most part, based either on first-hand knowledge, recollections of more senior people, or well-established institutional records.

Pathologists who read this book will find that they often learn about their own institutions as well as those specifically covered in the table of contents. For example, in the chapter of Drs. Scully and Vickery, I discovered that both William T. Councilman and James Homer Wright received their medical degrees (in 1878 and 1892, respectively) from the University of Maryland. For the brief time between my learning this and displaying my newly acquired erudition to my colleagues, I was probably the only faculty member at the University of Maryland who realized that these 2 famous figures “belonged” to us. Other readers will no doubt be similarly enlightened, and all will be entertained. This book is highly recommended to all pathologists (surgical or not, American or not) who are interested in where we are, how we got here, and what we might be going.

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