

Colorectal cancer, one of the most commonly diagnosed malignancies worldwide, demonstrates substantial variation of incidence and mortality in regions around the globe and in populations of different genetic and socioeconomic characteristics. Colorectal cancer is a disease of substantial economic impact that is amenable to screening strategies and systematic efforts at prevention. Thus, the topic of colorectal cancer is particularly well suited to international efforts for scientific collaboration and knowledge sharing.

This volume represents a collection of articles that have appeared in scientific journals distributed by AME Publishing Company based in China, curated by Minhua Zheng, MD (Ruijin Hospital, Shanghai Jiaotong University School of Medicine, Shanghai, China) and David J. Kerr, MD (University of Oxford, Oxford UK). The authors of each of these contributions bring considerable expertise and represent many of the most prestigious international universities and medical centers.

The first section, “*Epidemiology and Screening for Colorectal Cancer*” reviews controversies in current practices as well as newer diagnostic modalities that may improve early detection. The next section, “*Pathogenesis and Molecular Biology of Colorectal Cancer*” collects a series of articles addressing advances in colorectal cancer genetic and the emerging field of precision medicine and predictive biomarkers.

The largest sections of this volume address the initial treatment of colorectal cancer and the treatment of recurrent and metastatic disease. A wide range of technical advances are covered, including transanal endoscopic microsurgery and other minimally invasive options, as well as the roles of neoadjuvant protocols, immunotherapy, and intraoperative radiation therapy. As we enter the era of targeted therapy for colorectal cancer, overall improvements in cancer therapeutics have significantly changed the outcomes and outlook for patients with colorectal cancer. There are greater numbers of survivors living with or without disease recurrence. The final section “*Nursing and Psychological Problems of Colorectal Cancer*” covers some aspects of the challenges of survivorship.

While not a traditional textbook *per se*, this single volume effectively captures the full range of current expert thinking on the diagnosis and treatment of colorectal cancer. It will be of great interest and value to practicing physicians and surgeons, to cancer researchers, to students and trainees, and to an increasingly sophisticated lay audience.

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