

In this compilation, Editors Dr. Yaxing Shen and Dr. Zhirui Zhou have invited well known international experts in the field of lung radiotherapy to have their recently published articles on the topics relevant to lung stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) included in this compendium. Of note, only two of the 30 articles appear to be authored by thoracic surgeons. These articles were previously published in a variety of journals, some peer reviewed, some not, written with different purposes and to a range of audience. Some are brief summaries, some are editorials, others are more detailed discussions of issues, some are extensive reviews of evidence, with 100 or more references, some are presentation of original data, and some focus on practical and very clinically relevant issues. These articles come from authors from many different institutions in North America, Europe, Australia and Asia. Importantly to note, articles were published in different years, from 2011 to 2015. This is important to bear in mind while reading, as the current evidence is constantly changing; this is particularly relevant for critical appraisal of review articles. Thus, reader should be paying attention to the year that the article was originally written and to which data is included in the review, as a more recent publication might possibly lead to a different conclusion.

By design of such a compilation of “best of that we have access to”, there is repetition, ie several articles address the same issue, sometimes with same conclusions and arguments and sometimes with different ones. A reader with time on hand may find a “contrast and compare” analysis of articles addressing same topics quite informative. The titles of the sections are not as informative as they could be: there is considerable overlap between the topics covered in the first section “Current Evidence” and the next section entitled “Clinical Experience, Controversy and Debate”. That being said, a compilation of these articles all in one place allows a reader to focus on what the many world recognized leaders in their field have to say on the evidence behind SBRT, especially with respect to comparison to surgery, and on the topic of SBRT for operable patients. There are several articles on how to plan and deliver SBRT, with specific focus on quality assurance and safety. A number of articles focus on SBRT for central tumors, including a transcontinental debate on the issue (*Woodford and Senthi vs Nestle and Belderbos*); debates of this type have become very popular at meetings and their inclusion in a publication makes for a good read.

In summary, this book offers a plethora of reading for someone who wants to become familiar with principles, practice and evidence behind lung SBRT. And for those who are already quite familiar with lung SBRT and follow the literature, there are still chapters that are well worth reading. For those readers, I would particularly highlight the article by Rusthoven *et al.* addressing the implications of low-accruing randomized trials of surgery and SBRT and an interesting article on radiobiology by Karam and Bhatia.

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