

All the while, surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy are three major means for cancer therapy. Latest data has indicated that the cure rates for cancer by surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy are 49%, 40% and 11% respectively. With the extensive clinical application of a variety of image-guidance technology, intensity modulation technique and radiotherapy technology such as SBRT, the accuracy of radiotherapy is scaling new heights. In order to achieve better radiotherapeutic effects, the single dose of radiotherapy and biologically equivalent doses have also been gradually enhanced.

As we all know, cancer is a systemic disease. Its occurrence and development are closely related to the immune system disorder of the body itself. As local treatments, both radiotherapy and surgery against cancer mainly through eliminating the tumors while reducing the rate of distant metastasis. Rather than eliminating the tumors locally, radiotherapy can also activate the anti-cancer immune response mechanisms and bring systemic anti-cancer activity against cancer with the assistance of immunotherapy. Moreover, radiotherapy can transform the existing immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment, further augmenting the anti-cancer immune response. It differs essentially from chemotherapy which pitches into the elimination of systemic proliferating cells. This explains why clinical research on the combined use of local radiotherapy and immunotherapy has been increasing in recent years. It is believed that the concept of cancer treatment will change essentially. The treatment for cancer will, therefore, meet with both vast development and the corresponding challenges.

In this context, the book “*Radiotherapy with Immuno-Targeted Therapies*” emerged. The book invited a number of internationally well-known experts to summarize the latest advances in the whole or certain aspect of radiotherapy and immunotherapy, or to share their unique insights based on recent clinical research published by world renowned journals. The main authors of this book are from famous universities or cancer centers of the world including the United States, England, France, Germany, Japan, Singapore and so on. This book was co-published simultaneously across the world by AME Publishing Company and Central South University Press in both Chinese and English versions. The goal of this book was to enable readers to systematically and comprehensively understand the latest research results of radiotherapy and immunotherapy.

With the progress of cancer research and the advancement of new medical technologies, there will gradually be a clear theoretical mechanism of radiotherapy and immunotherapy in conjunction with wider prospects in their joint clinical operation. Perhaps in the near future, cancer will become a chronic disease that is controllable. It is believed that these in-depth studies of radiotherapy and immunotherapy will blaze the trails for cancer therapy.

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