

A multidisciplinary team (MDT) is a group of healthcare professionals who come from different disciplines and work together to contribute diagnostic and treatment decisions on a given patient with the aim of providing optimal care for the patient (1). Over the past two decades, studies have shown that the MDT approach can improve the survival rate of patients with cancer (2,3), and it has been increasingly used in cancer care in recent years.

Since the MDT approach includes various disciplines, effective and efficient communication among MDTs is critical in the process of patient care. Conflict between individuals and groups within the MDTs may lead to ineffective MDT application (4). Although the MDT process may broaden the perspectives available for a case, it may also increase the time and cost needed to make a decision and implement it. Therefore, successful MDT work needs an optimal form of collaboration from all the disciplines involved.

This new book, *iMDT international Multidisciplinary Team*, comprises 14 successful iMDT cases written by 123 leading experts from 16 different countries. It includes cases on progressive esophageal neoplasms, EGFR-mutant stage IA lung adenocarcinoma, bilateral tension pneumothorax, massive postpartum pulmonary thromboembolism, bone cement for sternal reconstruction, metastatic colon cancer, hematogenous small intestinal metastasis after removal of epithelial ovarian cancer, and recurrent lung lesion and hilar lymphadenopathy.

As effective multidisciplinary cooperation is the key to high-quality care, iMDT is receiving more attention in the clinical world. We believe that this book will be an excellent literary resource for clinicians and medical staff who want to acquire a better understanding of iMDT.

## References

1. Department of Health: National Health Service: Manual for cancer services 2004. Topic 2A: The generic multidisciplinary team (MDT). London, UK: DH Publications; 2004.
2. Available online: [www.dh.gov.uk/publications](http://www.dh.gov.uk/publications).
3. Pan CC, Kung PT, Wang YH, et al. Effects of multidisciplinary team care on the survival of patients with different stages of non-small cell lung cancer: a national cohort study. *PLoS One* 2015;10(5):e0126547.
4. Albany C, Adra N, Snaveley AC, et al. Multidisciplinary clinic approach improves overall survival outcomes of patients with metastatic germ-cell tumors. *Annals of Oncology* 2018;29(2):341-346.
5. Ndoro S. Effective multidisciplinary working: the key to high-quality care. *Br J Nurs* 2014;23(13):724-727.



**Jianxing He, MD, FACS**

Department of Thoracic Surgery,  
The First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University;  
Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Disease,  
State Key Laboratory of Respiratory Disease,  
National Clinical Research Center for Respiratory Disease,  
Guangzhou, China