

For a subject as wide and complex like lung cancer, to provide updates covering the all field is clearly difficult. As, luckily, the research work on this still very much deadly disease increases, to follow progresses beyond one's own small research areas can be daunting. Still, to have a fair idea of what is going on beyond the personal specialist interest, is extremely useful. It allows researchers to put their own work in context and, of course, to open to new ideas. It is also essential to identify the new problems which inevitably follow any new advancement and therefore to start to plan for new solutions. The choice made by the publisher of this book has been that of editing an anthology containing a selection, from the *Journal of Thoracic Disease*, of recently published papers.

Some newspapers follow the same approach to present, at the end of each year, a snapshot of recent worldwide events. These Bedside books, in which, rather than making an attempt to summarised and organise events which are by far too recent, contain a selection of articles published during the previous 12 months. The term Bedside book gives very much the idea of a book from which every day you can read a small but self-contained story.

In this Bedside book centred on lung cancer, stories from the main research fields are presented, from epidemiology up to advances in treatment. Some of these sections concern advances in well-established areas, like Signalling Pathways while others are focused on more recent developing fields like the non-coding RNAs. The choice of publishing this type of paper collections has also the advantage of requiring little time, from the ideation to the publication of the book. Least but not last, will bring readers to carefully study papers that, probably, they would never come across in our era of password driven searches on databases like PubMed. Electronic searchable data bases are incredibly useful and make our work faster and easier, no doubt about that, but perhaps prevent us from stumbling on something completely unexpected when reading recently published journals in a library. Well this book is a bit like losing oneself in a library, happy browsing!

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