

Hepatobiliary cancers are among the most prevalent cancers worldwide. With an increasing trend of the incidence of these diseases, there has been a persistent focus in developing new cutting-edge knowledge for the molecular pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment. In order to understand the advances of research and achieve translational applications in clinical use and precision medicine, a good grasp of the recent advances of research, both basic and clinical, in these cancers is a must.

This book is a fine collection of opinions in the form of commentaries on important topics published in various journals of the AME Publishing Company. The hepatobiliary cancers covered consist of hepatocellular carcinoma, cholangiocarcinoma, and gallbladder cancer. The areas of the commentaries and opinions are on the current knowledge of multidisciplinary research topics ranging from cancer stem cells, signaling pathways, cancer metabolism, epigenetics, microRNAs, to identifying novel gene targets and inhibitors for treatment. New technologies such as ‘omics’ and gene signature approaches are often used in those original papers. These are important tools and technologies in precision medicine.

I would like to thank the Editors and the AME Publishing Company for their putting together this book with special important topics in hepatobiliary cancers. This book is co-edited by Dr. Haitao Zhao, Dr./Prof. Ralf Weiskirchen, Dr. Ling Lu, and Dr. Bryan C. Fuchs from three countries, and represent the experience of a group of dedicated and well-informed physician-scientists. The authors of the commentaries in this book are renowned researchers in their own fields. Hence, their opinions represent updated perspectives and key opinions based on their expertise. This book, with the commentaries in these important areas, should be valuable to basic scientists, practitioners and oncologists in hepatobiliary cancers and serve as a concise but a significant source of updated knowledge on the molecular pathogenesis, strategic target identification and new treatment for hepatobiliary cancers.

Irene Oi-Lin Ng, MD, PhD

Department of Pathology, and State Key Laboratory for Liver Research,
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China.
(Email: iolng@bku.hk)