

One of the great challenges clinicians face is remaining up to date with new data that influences optimal care of our patients with breast cancer. The era of the Internet has allowed for the dissemination of information making it easily accessible, but the downside has been the posting of information that frequently undergoes no, or very little, vetting or editorial input. On the other hand, publishing of the classical textbook on a particular subject has been threatened by issues of timeliness and the competition provided by search engines on the Internet.

With those challenges in mind, AME Publishing Company commissioned the textbook "*Breast Cancer*" to capture all that is current in topics that span everything from epidemiology, basic research to clinical management and recent pivotal trial results. Rather than take the approach of a historically exhaustive review of every subject, the world-class investigators assembled to discuss each topic were charged with reviewing that which is new and placing it in context with current knowledge and standard of care practice. As a result, each chapter is short, providing only the most up to date new data that clinicians need to understand a rapidly changing field. Each chapter is supported by high quality figures and tables as appropriate and the key references guide readers to the original data.

"*Breast Cancer*" will be of value to any member of the multi-disciplinary team that cares for patients with breast cancer. As a clinician (surgeon, medical oncologist, radiation oncologist or plastic surgeon) cross discipline knowledge of advances is critical to optimizing a team approach to care of the breast cancer patient. Similarly, laboratory investigators will benefit from an understanding of the challenges that remain in improving outcome of patients regardless of stage of disease. Understanding some of the outstanding questions that face both clinicians and laboratory investigators can be mutually beneficial and inform the design of research questions that remain to be answered.

The faculty recruited to contribute to "*Breast Cancer*" have done an outstanding job of providing readers with the information that will enhance their knowledge and by extension improve the care of patients diagnosed with breast cancer.

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