

As a summary of the rich experiences in the diagnosis and treatment of thymic tumors, the book *Thymic Malignancy* is now offered to the public with the joint efforts of Shanghai Chest Hospital (SCH) and AME Publishing Company. As the president of SCH, I appreciate the work done by the mediastinal tumor team and congratulate them on the interim results they have achieved.

Medicine has entered an era of constant updating of knowledge and extensive exchange of information. The concept of “Precision Medicine” further requires that clinicians not only should have a wide range of knowledge but also achieve high accuracies in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of a specific disease.

Thymic tumors are rare, with a prevalence of 0.393/100,000 in China. However, there are still many unknown areas in the diagnosis and treatment of thymic tumors. Specialized in thoracic tumors, SCH has accumulated a great deal of clinical data on thymic tumors. And we have been taking the lead in establishing the Chinese Alliance for Research in Thymomas (ChART) in an attempt to form a collaborative force of clinical studies for this rare disease. The data need to be further explored in a deeper and more precise way, while at the same time, data sources should be expanded, so as to pave the way for precision medicine. To this end, we have established a clinical research team focusing on mediastinal tumors (including thymic tumors) in the department of thoracic surgery, with an attempt to maximize the strengths of SCH in the clinical practice and scientific research on thymic tumors, establish standards and guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of thymic tumors in different stages, and thus contribute to the improved thymic tumor management in China and abroad.

With the publication of this book, we sincerely hope the clinical research team on mediastinal tumors, in attempt to be one of the top teams worldwide, will follow the rules of modern medical sciences, focus their efforts on their goals, and strive for new breakthroughs in the diagnosis and treatment of thymic tumors.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to express sincere appreciation to Mr. Liangjun Gu for his efforts to translate the foreword from Chinese into English.

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