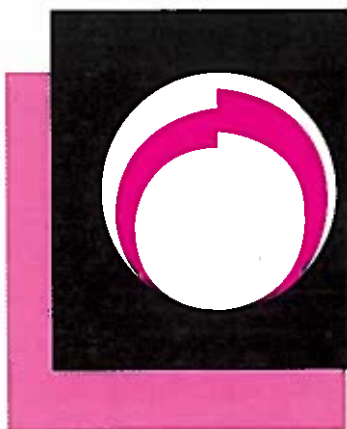


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5th Edition



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*To
Kerstin
To
Raminder
and to
Elly
with love*

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Preface

Once again, we are launching a new edition of this book—the fifth. In the five years since the previous edition, spectacular advances have been made in many areas of the science and practice of pathology—particularly in our understanding of the molecular and genetic origins of many diseases and in the application of modern techniques to diagnostic pathology. Although these have necessitated extensive revisions, our goals remain essentially the same.

- To integrate into the discussion of pathologic processes and disorders the newest established information available—morphologic, molecular, and genetic. This, we hope, will make the understanding of disease as up-to-date as possible and will facilitate the application of optimal diagnostic modalities and therapeutic interventions.
- To organize the presentations into logical and uniform approaches, thereby facilitating readability, comprehension, and learning.
- Not to permit the book to become larger and more cumbersome, and yet to provide adequate discussion of the significant lesions, processes, and disorders, allotting space in proportion to their clinical and biologic importance.
- To place great emphasis on clarity of writing and good usage of language in the recognition that struggling to comprehend is time-consuming and wearisome and gets in the way of the learning process.
- To make this first and foremost a student text (useful to students throughout their four years of medical school and into their residencies) but, at the same time, to provide sufficient detail and depth to meet the needs of more advanced readers.

We hope that we have, at least in some measure, achieved these goals; any shortcomings are surely not for lack of trying.

Although the newer body of knowledge has required extensive rewriting, the basic organization remains largely unchanged. The chapters on general principles and processes such as cell injury and inflammation are confined to the first third of the text, while the remainder of the book is

their quality, authenticity, and completeness. While most are recent—indeed some appeared in 1994, the year of publication of this text—older classics have been retained precisely because they are “classic.”

The same three authors of previous editions prepared most of the chapters themselves, but reviewed, edited, and critiqued all of them. They were measurably helped by the advice and reviews of many experts who were sought out to ensure the accuracy, completeness, and authenticity of areas of their expertise, as detailed in the acknowledgments section.

We hope that we have succeeded in transmitting to the readers of this text the beauty and excitement of our expanding knowledge of the nature of many diseases and have stimulated them to learn more about the pathologic basis of disease.

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