TEXTBOOK AND COLOR ATLAS OF SALIVARY GLAND PATHOLOGY:
DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT


The book Textbook and Color Atlas of Salivary Gland Pathology: Diagnosis and Management by Drs. Eric Carlson and Robert Ord provides a wide overview of salivary gland surgical considerations. The target audience for this text is head and neck surgeons and residents, but nonsurgeon clinicians who manage patients with salivary gland disorders (eg, oral medicine clinicians and oral pathologists) will find this textbook of some use in the clinical manifestations, diagnosis, and differential diagnosis of salivary disorders/pathology.

This is a first edition of this book and contains 13 chapters ranging from anatomy, diagnostic techniques, differential diagnosis, benign and malignant salivary gland tumors, and trauma or injuries to the salivary glands. This book has several strengths. The authors have shared a collection of high-quality photographs and color figures to demonstrate anatomical and surgical techniques for salivary gland pathology.

RADIOThERAPY FOR HEAD AND NECK CANCERS: INDICATIONS AND TECHNIQUES

By: K. Kian Ang and Adam S. Garden, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia, PA, 2011, 304 pp, $164.95

After the passage of 6 years, Drs. Ang and Garden have revised their textbook to a fourth edition, updating The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center’s approach to head and neck cancer. The techniques of intensity-modulated radiation therapy ( IMRT) and outcomes using this approach have matured significantly since 2006, making a new edition timely.

This edition maintains a 2-part structure: (1) “General Principles of Head and Neck Radiotherapy” and (2) “Site-Specific Indications and Techniques.” Part 1 includes overviews of recent advances in head and neck cancer, modes of therapy, practical aspects of external-beam therapy, endocavitary beam therapy, and brachytherapy, as well as patient care before, during, and after radiotherapy. This section may have been improved by inclusion of the authors’ recommended lymph node atlas as well as IMRT techniques and treatment-planning goals for both targets and organs at risk.

Part 2 reviews indications and techniques for oral cavity, nasopharynx, oropharynx, larynx, hypopharynx, nasal cavity, paranasal sinuses, salivary glands, thyroid, skin, neck nodes from unknown primary, and treatment for locoregional recurrence. Within each chapter, before the published data are reviewed, each subsite is reviewed for treatment strategy, target volume, dose, and conventional fields; and for IMRT, the gross tumor volume, clinical target volume and elective nodal irradiation are reviewed. Each chapter is illustrated with multiple cases, with a brief clinical vignette, the treatment, accompanying CT scans with volumes and isodose lines, and outcome. One does wonder about the current thoughts of the authors regarding proton radiotherapy for head and neck cancer; perhaps the next edition will review this experience.

The publisher has made the book available online through their website. A code from the printed book is entered after registration with the publisher. The book is then fully searchable and available from any computer linked to the Ethernet. I went through this process with the publisher. The book is then fully searchable and available from any computer linked to the Ethernet. I went through this process and found it to be painless. However, one wishes the publisher would make the book simultaneously available in currently more common e-book formats, such as for the Kindle or I-Pad.

In sum, I would very much recommend this book to radiation oncology residents and training programs as well as radiation oncologists in practice who may infrequently treat patients with head and neck cancer. The near comprehensive overview of the evolution of radiotherapeutic techniques in addition to current standards for head and neck cancer in such detail are not available in more general textbooks.