

Score: 95; 4 Stars

Atlas of Early Neoplasias of the Gastrointestinal Tract: Endoscopic Diagnosis and Therapeutic Decisions, 2nd Edition

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Reviewer

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Description

Endoscopic submucosal dissection of early gastrointestinal neoplasms in Eastern countries has led to high cure rates with less morbidity and surgery. Despite this outstanding accomplishment, Western countries lag behind in adopting and mastering these techniques. While some tertiary referral centers in Western countries use this technique, overall it still lags behind the East. The heart of the issue lies in the ability of Western endoscopists to identify submucosal invasion and the lateral margins and foci of early cancer. This book is organized into two parts. Using beautiful pictures accompanied by well-organized charts, part 1 predominantly presents the basics of neoplasm detection, including the language used to describe gastrointestinal neoplasms and the general macroscopic, magnified, narrow band imaging, and ultrasound characteristics and architecture of gastrointestinal neoplasms. Section 2 covers organ-specific and disease-specific gastrointestinal neoplasms using similarly well-organized charts and beautiful pictures.

Purpose

This is a guide to help Western endoscopists develop these skills in the hope the West can match the East in their outstanding patient outcomes with endoscopic submucosal dissection. Accomplishing this objective is a worthy endeavor as improving patient outcomes and decreasing morbidity is at the center of patient care. A book like this is needed to accomplish this goal as trying to understand preneoplastic and neoplastic mucosal patterns without accompanying examples and excellent descriptors is difficult. While the literature has several studies addressing this issue, it is not nearly as broad and descriptive. The organization of this book, from the basics of identification to the advanced identification of gastrointestinal neoplasms, allows it to reach its objectives. It is a book that readers will have to sit and study several times and return to as they attempt to master identification of the mucosal abnormalities that lead to early detection of early neoplasms of the gastrointestinal tract.

Audience

The audience is Western gastroenterologists seeking to improve their detection of early gastrointestinal neoplasms. It is not a book that teaches advanced therapeutic technique, rather it is a book that develops the skill to first identify and describe early neoplasia. This skill is the foundation on which the decision to endoscopically dissect is built upon. This book fulfills this obligation using multiple pictures and descriptions to guide readers through examples of early neoplasia. The authors are world-renowned endoscopists who written and published multiple articles for top peer-reviewed journals in the field of gastroenterology.

Features

This book does an excellent job of covering the macroscopic and histological identification of early gastrointestinal neoplasias. For beginners, part 1 is particularly useful as it covers the basics of macroscopic and histological identification, which is then supported by the pathophysiological mechanism of carcinogenesis as well as the basics of endoscopic resection. This part's defining feature is its macroscopic and histological identification sections. The pathophysiology sections, while informative, are there to support the identification sections. Part 2 is for those who have mastered part 1 and/or for those who are more advanced in their knowledge about early neoplasias. It does an excellent job of delving deeper into the nuances of organ-specific neoplasias. Compared to part 1, part 2 has more in-depth pictures and text describing specific pathology.

Assessment

This book stands alone in terms of its quality and content. The West has to catch up to the East's early detection of gastrointestinal neoplasms. Since most of what is taught in our fellowships is devoid of this book's information it should be standard reading for all Western gastroenterologists and trainees.