HEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELL TRANSPLANTATION: A HANDBOOK FOR CLINICIANS

John R. Wingard, MD, Dennis A. Gastineau, MD, Helen L. Leather, BPharm, Edward L. Snyder, MD, FACP, Zbigniew M. Szczepiorkowski, MD, PhD, FCAP. Bethesda: AABB Press, 2015. 970 pages. Spiral-bound. Price: $192.00. ISBN-10: 1563952971. ISBN-13: 978-1563952975.

The second edition of *Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: A Handbook for Clinicians* has recently been released by AABB. More than 90 transplant experts have contributed to 54 chapters in this comprehensive review of the state of the art of transplantation. If you enjoyed the 2009 first edition, you'll certainly enjoy the second, and if you didn't read the first, you are in for a treat. The second edition has been extensively revised and updated to address the evolving practice of transplantation, from new alternative donor sources to extension of transplantation to nonmalignant diseases and comprehensive discussions of managing complications and late effects. For example, the emergence of haploidentical donors as a viable source of progenitor cells is covered in a superb new chapter. All chapters are detailed, many with excellent tables and figures to facilitate the identification and review of key points by the reader. Each chapter concludes with a concise list of references and suggested readings.

The *Handbook* will serve as a ready resource for every member of the multidisciplinary transplant team, including physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, social workers, nutritionists, coordinators, therapists, and allied health professionals. I also highly recommend this text to educators in training programs as it would be a wonderful resource for trainees. The coverage of topics is comprehensive, yet junior clinicians and trainees will find it easily digestible. The organization of the book is logical with chapter order longitudinal by the time course of transplantation, beginning with a historical perspective and common uses of transplant, to patient and donor evaluation, HLA typing, stem cell grafts, collection and processing of progenitor cells, stem cell infusion, engraftment and immune reconstitution, supportive care, complications (including separate chapters on acute and chronic graft-versus-host disease), and concluding with late and secondary complications, including relapse and management. One minor criticism is the placement of the chapter on management of fertility much earlier in the book (instead of following disease relapse), as the best time to consider fertility preservation options is prior to transplant. Pediatric aspects of transplantation, including indications, stem cell sources, conditioning regimens, pharmaceutical aspects, and late effects, are well covered in a separate chapter.

With the increasing emphasis on demonstrating quality and value of transplantation, one chapter reviews accreditation standards and quality programs, while a second discusses the financial aspects of transplantation. These chapters should be of interest to all in the transplant field, but particularly to program directors and administrators. Beginning researchers and those establishing transplant programs will also appreciate the chapter on data collection and management. Furthermore, the increasing recognition of the importance of patient-centered outcomes is addressed by excellent chapters on pain management and neuropsychiatric and psychosocial complications of transplant recipients. I also appreciated the inclusion of topics that may be less familiar to some clinicians, such as medical evaluation of donors, collection of cord blood grafts, and processing of progenitor cells.

In addition to the 54 chapters, there are 16 appendices, each in a table format with references, which include dosing guidelines for renal function for antibacterial, fungal, and viral drugs; an extensive set of appendices on relevant pharmacokinetic drug interactions; and dosing and monitoring guidelines for calcineurin inhibitors. The tables are easy to read and interpret and thus will serve as a quick reference for decision making during busy clinical rounds. However, with new chapters included in this second edition, the book has grown from 729 in the first edition to 970 pages in the second and soon will "outgrow" the white coat pocket! It's truly a valuable resource for all settings, including work rounds, so I am glad the editors have made a digital version available to enable this wealth of knowledge to be more easily accessed whenever and wherever patient care is delivered.

This text is comprehensive and timely to the practice of transplantation and related disciplines. I highly recommend it to all clinicians involved in the care and management of transplant donors and recipients, educators, and program administrators, as a valuable resource and reference.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author has disclosed no conflicts of interest.

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AABB recently released the second edition of *Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation: A Handbook for Clinicians*. The new edition features an enhanced educational trainee experience and provides relevant information on all areas of HSCT, including indications for transplantation, donor and patient evaluation, management of immunosuppressive therapy, and management of the most common complications during HSCT. The content has been updated and reorganized so readers can find topics more readily. In addition, new chapters address nonmalignant diseases, haploidentical transplants, photopheresis, financial considerations, and iron overload.