

Preface



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Guest Editors

Throughout the world, radiation therapy is one of the most common but misunderstood tools in the treatment armamentarium for the practicing clinical oncology team. During the past several years there have been significant innovations with respect to the treatment planning and administration of radiotherapy, whether external beam, brachytherapy, and/or other modes of delivery.

This issue of the *Hematology/Oncology Clinics of North America* discusses the role of radiation medicine as part of curative management for both solid and hematologic malignancies. It updates readers on current clinical trials that include radiotherapy as an integral component of therapy. The contributors to these issues comprise the brightest minds within the specialty. Moreover, they have written each article with the expressed intent of educating non-radiation-medicine specialists on the topic at hand. The focus is on a multidisciplinary approach, whether for potentially curative intent or for short-term palliation.

In essence, this two-part series aims to update practicing oncologists and members of the associated patient care team on many of the exciting changes that are taking place in the area of radiation medicine.

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