PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY

Dennis S. Chi, MD
Deputy Chief
Head of Ovarian Cancer Surgery
Gynecology Service
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Andrew Berchuck, MD
Director
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director
Gynecologic Cancer Program
Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

Don S. Dizon, MD, FACP
Clinical Co-Director
Gynecologic Oncology
Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center
Associate Professor
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts
Catheryn Yashar, MD
Professor
Chief of Breast and Gynecologic Services
Medical Director La Jolla
University of California, San Diego
San Diego, California
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Dedication

This book is dedicated to our families: Hae-Young Chi and children Jessica, Stephanie, and Andrew Chi; Amy Berchuck and children Samuel, Jacob, and Benjamin Berchuck; Henry Stoll and children Isabelle, Harrison, and Sophia Dizon-Stoll; Arnold Yashar and children William, Jacob, and Drew Yashar. Their patience, good humor, encouragement, and love have inspired us throughout our careers. In this regard, they have each made significant contributions to this book.

We would also like to express our gratitude to our own esteemed professors who guided and mentored us, and to all of the colleagues we have worked alongside, learned from, and taught over the years. The Gynecologic Oncology community that the readers of this book belong to is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge in the field and its application to outstanding patient care. The considerable progress we have achieved together in the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of these cancers is presented in this book. On behalf of the Gynecologic Oncology community, we dedicate this edition of Principles and Practice of Gynecologic Oncology to the brave and courageous patients we all serve, and take inspiration in the oath we all share.

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

- I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.
- I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.
- I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon’s knife or the chemist’s drug.
- I will not be ashamed to say “I know not,” nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient’s recovery.
- I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. Above all, I must not play at God.
- I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may
affect the person’s family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

- I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.
- I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.
- If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.
International Editorial Board

Ali Ayhan, PhD
Professor and Chairman
Department of Gynecologic Oncology
Baskent University School of Medicine
Ankara, Turkey

Uziel Beller, MD
Professor and Chairman
Department of Gynecology
Shaare Zedek Medical Center
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Jerusalem, Israel

Prof. Adriana Bermudez, MD, PhD
Chair, Gynecologic Oncology Unit
Buenos Aires University Hospital
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dr. Jorge A. Brañes, MD
Profesor Asociado
División de Obstetricia y Ginecología
Facultad de Medicina
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Santiago, Chile

Luis M. Chiva, MD, PhD
Head of Department of Gynecology Oncology
President of the Educational Committee
Departments of Gynecologic and Medical Oncology
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Madrid, Spain
Adjunct Professor of University of Texas
Houston, Texas

Dr. Carien L. Creutzberg, MD
Professor of Radiation Oncology
Department of Radiation Oncology
Leiden University Medical Centre
Leiden, The Netherlands

Lynette Denny, MBChB, MMEDm, PhD, FCOG (SA)
Professor and Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
University of Cape Town/Groote Schuur Hospital
Cape Town, South Africa

Gustavo Ferraris, MD, PhD
Academic Director
Radiation Oncology Specialty
Catholic University of Córdoba
Medical Director
Department of Radiation Therapy
Centro Médico Dean Funes
Córdoba, Argentina

Michael L. Friedlander, PhD, FRACP
Conjoint Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Keiichi Fujiwara, MD, PhD
Professor and Director
Gynecologic Oncology
Saitama Medical University International Medical Center
Hidaka-City, Saitama, Japan

Dr. Paweł Knapp, MD, PhD
Professor
Department of Gynaecology and Gynaecologic Oncology
Medical University of Bialystok
Bialystok, Poland

Alexandra Leary, MD, PhD
Medical Oncologist
Gynecology Unit
Lead, Gynecology Translational Research Laboratory
Gustave Roussy Cancer Centre
Villejuif, France

Helen MacKay, MBChB, BSc, MRCP, MD
Head, Division of Medical Oncology & Hematology
Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre
Associate Professor
Faculty of Medicine  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Canada

Angelo Maggioni, MD  
Director, Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
European Institute of Oncology  
Milan, Italy

Umesh Mahantshetty, MD  
Professor  
Radiation Oncology  
Tata Memorial Hospital  
Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Fernando Cotait Maluf, MD  
Member of the Steering Committee  
Oncology Center  
Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein  
Medical Oncology Director  
Centro Oncológico Antonio Ernário de Moraes  
Beneficência Portuguesa de São Paulo  
São Paulo, Brazil

Sang-Yoon Park, MD, PhD  
President, Korean Society of Peritoneal Surface Malignancies  
Doctor/Principal Scientist Center for Uterine Cancer  
National Cancer Center  
Republic of Korea

Prof. Denis Querleu, MD  
President-elect, European Society of Gynaecologic Oncology  
Institut Bergonié Cancer Center  
Bordeaux, France

Maureen Trudeau, MD, FRCPC  
Medical Oncologist  
Division of Medical Oncology & Hematology  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre Professor  
Faculty of Medicine  
University of Toronto  
Toronto, Canada

Xiaohua Wu, MD, PhD  
Director and Professor
Contributors

Fadi W. Abdul-Karim, MD, MEd
Department of Pathology
Vice Chair of Education
Robert J. Tomisch Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute
Professor of Pathology
Cleveland Clinic, Lerner College of Medicine
Cleveland, Ohio

Sunil J. Advani, MD
Associate Professor
Department of Radiation Medicine and Applied Sciences
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

Ebtesam Ahmed, PharmD, MS
Associate Clinical Professor
Clinical Health Professions
St. John University
Queens, New York
Director Pharmacy Internship
MJHS Institute for Innovation in Palliative Care
New York, New York

David S. Alberts, MD
Regents Professor and Director Emeritus
University of Arizona Cancer Center
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

Donald Armstrong, MD
Professor Emeritus
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Meena Bedi, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Radiation Oncology
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Andrew Berchuck, MD  
Director  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Director  
Gynecologic Cancer Program  
Duke Cancer Institute  
Duke University Medical Center  
Durham, North Carolina

Sushil Beriwal, MD  
Associate Professor  
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute  
Department of Radiation Oncology  
Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Leslie Blackhall, MD  
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine  
Division of General Medicine, Geriatrics and Palliative Care  
Department of Medicine  
Palliative Care Clinic  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Michael A. Bookman, MD  
Director  
Gynecologic Oncology Research  
US Oncology and Arizona Oncology  
Tucson, Arizona

David D. L. Bowtell, BVSc, PhD  
Head  
Cancer Genetics and Genomics and Senior Principal Research Fellow  
Research Department  
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and Garvan Institute of Medical Research  
Victoria (Peter Mac) and NSW (Garvan), Australia

Mark F. Brady, PhD  
Director of Statistics, GOG SDC  
GOG Statistical and Data Center  
Research Professor  
Department of Biostatistics  
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

Donal J. Brennan, MB, MRCPI, MRCOG, PhD
Assistant Master
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Rotunda Hospital
Dublin, Ireland

Louise A. Brinton, PhD
Chief
Hormonal and Reproductive Epidemiology
Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

Robert E. Bristow, MD, MBA
Professor and Chair
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of California
Irvine, California

Jubilee Brown, MD
Professor and Associate Director
Department of Gynecologic Oncology
Levine Cancer Institute
Carolineas HealthCare System
Charlotte, North Carolina

James J. Burke II, MD
The Donald G. Gallup Scholar of Gynecologic Oncology
The Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Institute
Memorial University Medical Center
Associate Professor and Director
Department of Gynecologic Oncology
Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah Campus
Savannah, Georgia

Hilary Calvert, MD, FRCP
Emeritus Professor of Cancer Therapeutics
UCL Cancer Institute
Research Department of Oncology
Faculty of Medical Sciences
London, England
Susana M. Campos, MS, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Medical Oncology  
Harvard Medical School  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, Massachusetts

Dennis S. Chi, MD  
Deputy Chief  
Head of Ovarian Cancer Surgery  
Gynecology Service  
Department of Surgery  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, New York

David Cibula, MD, PhD  
Gynecologic Oncology Center  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
First Faculty of Medicine  
Charles University in Prague  
General University Hospital in Prague  
Prague, Czech Republic

David E. Cohn, MD  
Stuart M. Sloan and Larry J. Copeland Chair  
Director  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
Professor  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Columbus, Ohio

Mary B. Daly, MD, PhD  
Chair  
Department of Clinical Genetics  
Fox Chase Cancer Center  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Robert Debernardo, MD  
Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery  
Gynecologic Oncology Division  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Women’s Health Institute  
Cleveland Clinic  
Cleveland, Ohio

Marcela G. del Carmen, MD
Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Don S. Dizon, MD, FACP
Clinical Co-Director
Gynecologic Oncology
Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center
Associate Professor
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Sean C. Dowdy, MD, FACS
Professor and Chair
Division of Gynecologic Surgery Co-Leader, Women’s Cancer Program
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota

Linda R. Duska, MD, MPH
Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Fellowship Director
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Associate Dean for Clinical Research
University of Virginia School of Medicine
Charlottesville, Virginia

David A. Edmonson, MD, FACS
Assistant Professor
Department of General Surgery
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director
Lymphedema Program, PWO
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Program in Women’s Oncology
Women and Infants’ Hospital
Providence, Rhode Island

Mark H. Einstein, MD, MS
Professor and Chair
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women’s Health
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Newark, New Jersey
Robert E. Emerson, MD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Indiana University School of Medicine  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Beth A. Erickson, MD  
Professor  
Department of Radiation Oncology  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Britt K. Erickson, MD  
Assistant Professor  
Gynecologic Oncologist  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dariush Etemadmoghadam, PhD  
Senior Research Officer  
Department of Research  
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre  
Victoria, Australia

Amanda N. Fader, MD  
Associate Professor and Director  
The Kelly Gynecologic Oncology Service  
Baltimore, Maryland

Virginia L. Filiaci, PhD  
Associate Director  
Biostatistics and Science  
GOG and NRG Oncology-Buffalo Statistics and Data Management Centers  
Roswell Park Cancer Institute  
Buffalo, New York

Gini F. Fleming, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Director  
Medical Oncology Breast Program Medical Oncology  
Director  
Gynecologic Oncology  
The University of Chicago Medicine
Chicago, Illinois

Silvia Franceschi, MD
Group Head, Special Advisor
Infections and Cancer Epidemiology Group
International Agency for Research on Cancer
Lyon, France

Stéphanie L. Gaillard, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Medicine/Division of Medical Oncology
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

Aleksandra Gentry-Maharaj, PhD
Senior Research Associate
Gynecological Cancer Research Centre
Department of Women’s Cancer
Institute for Women’s Health
Faculty of Population Health Sciences
UCL
London, England

David M. Gershenson, MD
Professor
Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

Charlie Gourley, BSc, MB ChB, PhD, FRCP
Professor of Medical Oncology
Nicola Murray Ovarian Cancer Research Centre
Edinburgh Cancer Research UK Centre
MRC IGMM
The University of Edinburgh
Honorary Consultant in Medical Oncology
Edinburgh Cancer Centre
Western General Hospital
United Kingdom

Laura J. Havrilesky, MD, MHSc
Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

Jaroslaw T. Hepel, MD, FACRO
Assistant Professor
Department of Radiation Oncology
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University
Rhode Island Hospital
Providence, Rhode Island

Warner K. Huh, MD
Professor and Division Director
Margaret Cameron Spain Endowed Chair in Obstetrics/Gynecology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama

Elizabeth L. Jewell, MD
Associate Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Weill Cornell Medical College
Associate Attending Surgeon
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Josephine Kang, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiation Oncology
Department of Radiation Oncology
New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, New York

Noah D. Kauff, MD
Director
Clinical Cancer Genetics
Duke Cancer Institute
Duke University Health System
Durham, North Carolina

Hanan I. Khalil, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Diagnostic Imaging
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Rhode Island Medical Imaging
East Providence, Rhode Island
Elise C. Kohn, MD, CAPT (Ret.) USPHS
Head
Gynecologic Cancer Therapeutics
Gastroenteropancreatic Neuroendocrine Cancer Therapeutics
Lead
NCTN Core Correlative Science Committee
Clinical Investigations Branch
Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program
National Cancer Institute
Attending Physician
Women’s Malignancies Branch
Medical Oncology Program
Center for Cancer Research
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland

Shalini L. Kulasingam, MPH, PhD
Associate Professor
School of Public Health
Division of Epidemiology and Community Health
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Charles A. Kunos, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Northeast Ohio Medical Center
Rootstown, Ohio

Eric Leblanc, MD
Head
Department of Gynecological Oncology
Centre Oscar Lambret
Lille, France

Larissa J. Lee, MD
Assistant Professor
Radiation Oncology
Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Boston, Massachusetts

Leslie K. Lee, MD
Staff Radiologist
Department of Radiology
Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Instructor of Radiology
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Susanna I. Lee, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Radiology
Harvard Medical School
Staff Radiologist
Department of Radiology
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Carolyn Lefkowits, MD, MPH, MS
Assistant Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Denver, Colorado

Robert D. Legare, MD
Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Clinical)
Associate Professor of Medicine (Clinical)
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Alpert Medical School
Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island

Mario M. Leitao Jr, MD
Associate Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Weill Cornell Medical College
Associate Attending Surgeon
Gynecology Service
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Ernst Lengyel, MD, PhD
Chairman
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Arthur L. and Lee G. Herbst Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of Chicago Medicine
Chicago, Illinois
Pauline Lesage, MD, LLM
Physician Educator
MJHS Institute for Innovation in Palliative Care
New York, New York
Associate Professor
Department of Family and Social Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Bronx, New York

Douglas A. Levine, MD
Director
Gynecologic Oncology, Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center
Head
Gynecology Research Laboratory
Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
NYU Langone Medical Center
New York, New York

Stephanie Lheureux, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto
Staff
Department of Medical Oncology and Hematology
Princess Margaret Cancer Center
Toronto, Canada

Maria Lluria-Prevatt, PhD
Research Administrator
University of Arizona Cancer Center
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

Karen H. Lu, MD
J. Taylor Wharton Distinguished Chair in Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine
Division of Surgery
Chair
Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine
Division of Surgery
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas
John R. Lurain, MD
Marcia Stenn Professor of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Fineberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University
Chicago, Illinois

Heather MacNew, MD
Assistant Professor
Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery
Mercer University School of Medicine
Memorial University Medical Center
Savannah, Georgia

Gina M. Mantia-Smaldone, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Surgical Oncology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Daniela Matei, MD
Professor
Diana Princess of Wales Professor in Cancer Research
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, Illinois

Shaunagh McDermott, MB, BCh, BAO
Instructor
Harvard Medical School
Radiologist
Department of Thoracic Imaging
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

D. Scott McMeekin†, MD
Virginia Cade Chair
Cancer Development Therapeutics
Deputy Director for Clinical Research
Section Chief, Gynecologic Oncology
University of Oklahoma
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Usha Menon, MD (RES), FRCOG
Professor of Gynaecological Cancer
Department of Women’s Cancer
UCL Institute for Women’s Health
London, United Kingdom

Jeffrey C. Miecznikowski, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Biostatistics
SUNY University at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Bradley J. Monk, MD, FACOG, FACS
Professor
Director
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Vice Chair
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of Arizona Cancer Center-Phoenix
Creighton University School of Medicine at
Dignity Health St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center
Phoenix, Arizona

John W. Moroney, MD
Associate Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Firas Mourtada, PhD, DABR, FAAPM
Adjunct Associate Professor
Department of Radiation Oncology
Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Chief of Clinical Physics
Department of Radiation Oncology
Christiana Health Care Systems
Newark, Delaware
Associate Professor
Department of Radiation Physics
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

Andreas Obermair, MD, FRANZCOG, CGO
Director of Research
Queensland Centre for Gynecological Cancer
Herston, Brisbane, Australia

Roisin O’Cearbhaill, MB, BCh, BAO
Assistant Professor
Department of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medical College
Assistant Attending Physician
Gynecologic Medical Oncology Service
Department of Medicine
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Kunle Odunsi, MD, PhD
Cancer Center Deputy Director
The M. Steven Piver Professor and Chair
Department of Gynecologic Oncology
Executive Director
Center for Immunotherapy
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

Amit M. Oza, BSc, MD, MBBS, FRCP
Professor
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto
Co-Director
Drug Development Program
Princess Margaret Cancer Center
Toronto, Canada

Sonali V. Pandya, MD, FACS
Breast Surgeon
Department of Surgery – Clinical Instructor at Brown University
Women and Infants’ Hospital
Providence, Rhode Island

Emily Penick, MD
Captain, Medical Corps, U.S. Army
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Clinical Assistant Professor
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
Bethesda, Maryland

Jacobus Pfisterer, MD, PhD
Director
Gynecologic Oncology Center
Chairman
AGO Study Group
Past Chair/Member of the Executive Committee
Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup GCIG
Kiel, Germany

Russell K. Portenoy, MD
Professor
Department of Neurology
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Executive Director
MJHS Institute for Innovation in Palliative Care
New York, New York

Scott C. Purinton, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Mercer University School of Medicine
Assistant Professor
Anderson Cancer Institute Surgical Associates
Anderson Cancer Institute
Memorial University Medical Center
Savannah, Georgia

Denis Querleu, MD
President-elect
European Society of Gynaecologic Oncology
Institut Bergonié Cancer Center
Bordeaux, France

Tina Rizack, MD, MPH
Medical Oncology/Hematology
Program in Women’s Oncology
Women & Infants Hospital
Assistant Professor (Clinical) of Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology
Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Providence, Rhode Island

Kenneth Rolston, MD, FACP
Internist and Professor of Medicine
Department of Infectious Diseases, Infection Control and Employee Health
Division of Internal Medicine
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

Paul J. Sabbatini, MD
Attending Physician
Gynecologic Medical Oncology Service
Deputy Physician-in-Chief for Clinical Research
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Amar Safdar, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology
NYU School of Medicine
Director
Transplant Infectious Diseases
Department of Medicine
NYU Langone Medical Center
New York, New York

Vikrant V. Sahasrabuddhe, D. PH
Program Director
Division of Cancer Prevention
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, Maryland

Mark Schattner, MD
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Department of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medical College
Attending Physician
Gastroenterology and Nutrition Service
Department of Medicine
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Julian C. Schink, MD
Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Michigan State University
Vice President
Clinical Integrations and Improvement
Spectrum Health
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Angeles A. Secord, MD, MHSc
Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
Duke Cancer Institute
Durham, North Carolina

Jeffrey D. Seidman,* MD
Medical Officer
Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health
Center for Devices and Radiological Health
Food and Drug Administration
Silver Spring, Maryland

Priya Simoes, MD
Fellow
Gastroenterology and Nutrition Service
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Yukio Sonoda, MD
Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Weill Cornell Medical College
Attending Surgeon
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Margaret M. Steinhoff, MD FACP
Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Director of Surgical Pathology
Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island
Providence, Rhode Island

Paul H. Sugarbaker, MD, FACS, FRCS
Director
Program in Peritoneal Surface Malignancy
MedStar Washington Hospital Center
Washington, DC

C. James Sung, MD
Professor of Pathology
Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Vice Chief of Pathology and Director of Clinical Pathology
Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island  
Director of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Informatics  
Care New England Health System  
Providence, Rhode Island  

Carmen Tornos, MD  
Professor of Pathology  
Department of Pathology  
Stony Brook Medical Center  
Stony Brook, New York  

Britton Trabert, PhD  
Investigator  
Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, Maryland  

Akila Viswanathan, MD, MPH  
Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology  
Harvard Medical School  
Director  
Gynecologic Radiation  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, Massachusetts  

Edward J. Wilkinson, MD, FACOG, FACAP  
Professor and Vice Chairman  
Director and Chief  
Division of Anatomic Pathology  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Adjunct Professor  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
University of Florida College of Medicine  
Gainesville, Florida  

Aaron H. Wolfson, MD  
Professor  
Department of Radiation Oncology  
University of Miami School of Medicine  
Miami, Florida  

Catheryn Yashar, MD  
Professor  
Chief of Breast and Gynecologic Services  
Medical Director La Jolla
University of California, San Diego
San Diego, California

Anna Yemelyanova, MD
Associate Professor
Department of Pathology
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

Robert H. Young, MD
Robert E. Scully Professor of Pathology
Harvard Medical School
Director
Gynecologic Pathology
Pathologist
Department of Pathology
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Dmitriy Zamarin, MD, PhD
Assistant Attending
Gynecologic Medical Oncology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Oliver Zivanovic, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Weill Cornell Medical College
Assistant Attending Surgeon
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

*The opinions and assertions herein are the private views of the authors and do not purport to reflect the US FDA, Department OF HHS, or any other part of the US Government. This work was not prepared as part of Dr. Seidman’s official duties in the US FDA.
Video List

Vulva:

Video 1 Sentinel inguinofemoral lymph node identification in vulvar cancer and the use of near-infrared imaging for sentinel lymph node detection

Cervix:

Video 2 Radical abdominal trachelectomy
Video 3  Extraperitoneal lymph node dissection

Video 4  Robotic-assisted supralevator total pelvic exenteration

Video 5  Total pelvic infralevator exenteration using Ligasure
Video 6 Urinary reconstruction following cystectomy: The ileal conduit

Video 7 Urinary reconstruction after pelvic exenteration: Modified Indiana pouch

Video 8 Modified RAM flap for neovagina creation after exenteration

Uterine Corpus:
Video 9 Sentinel lymph node mapping for uterine cancer: A practical illustration of injection and mapping techniques

Video 10 Sentinel lymph node (SNL) mapping using robotic-assisted fluorescence imaging

Ovary:

Video 11 Robotic Xi infra renal aortic node dissection with lower pelvic port placement
Video 12 Retroperitoneal lymph node dissection (RPLND) for primary ovarian cancer

Video 13 Surgical vascular anatomy on the upper abdomen

Video 14 Vascular and ligamentous attachments
Video 15 How to approach suspicious lymph nodes on the upper abdomen

Video 16 Resection of tumor from the supragastric lesser sac with peritoneectomy

Video 17 Morison pouch peritoneectomy in cytoreductive surgery
Video 18 Diaphragm peritonectomy with resection of Glisson capsule for advanced ovarian cancer

Video 19 Diaphragm peritonectomy with full-thickness resection for advanced ovarian cancer

Video 20 Liver mobilization with diaphragm peritonectomy and liver wedge resection
Video 21  Excision of tumor along ligament venosum

Video 22  Excision of tumor along ligamentum teres

Video 23  Mobilization of right liver with wedge resection segments 6 and 7
The publication in 2017 of the 7th edition of Principles and Practice of Gynecologic Oncology marks the 25th anniversary of the creation of this textbook. The founding editors, William J. Hoskins, Carlos A. Perez, and Robert C. Young, represented the disciplines of Gynecologic Oncology, Radiation Oncology, and Medical Oncology. They created the first multidisciplinary textbook in the field and, in their words, “strove to produce a definitive reference written at the expert level.” The focus on multidisciplinary approaches to treatment and a detailed presentation of the literature on which clinical care is based continues to be a guiding principle.

The second set of editors, Richard R. Barakat, Maurie Markman, and Marcus Randall, also represented Gynecologic, Medical, and Radiation Oncology. Over the course of several editions, they incorporated new chapters that reflected dramatic progress in the understanding and treatment of women’s cancers. Simultaneously, advances in technology facilitated the use of full color throughout the book as well as increasingly user-friendly online versions that allow access to cutting-edge information at the point of care.

As the new editors of Principles and Practice of Gynecologic Oncology, we owe a debt of gratitude to our predecessors. We are proud to continue their tradition of bringing together multidisciplinary expertise that also includes Pathology colleagues. Given the pace of discovery and change within the field, we strove to ensure that this new edition reflects the many advances in the field. To this end, this edition includes an updated chapter on pharmacology of gynecologic cancers and a new chapter on targeted therapies. Several approaches have been developed with collaboration and support from the publisher that will enhance the value of this book for practitioners, researchers, and students.

We are increasingly becoming a single worldwide Gynecologic Oncology community. In recognition of this reality, the most significant change in the 7th edition is an enhanced global focus. This is in dramatic contrast to 25 years ago when this textbook was essentially intended to reflect the standard of care and ongoing advancement of knowledge in the developed world. Today, developed nations have embraced global efforts to eradicate health care disparities. The greatest challenge in Gynecologic Oncology globally is the lack of infrastructure for cervical cancer screening and prevention in resource-poor countries. This results in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of women annually, many of which could be prevented. Treatment of gynecologic cancers also continues to be suboptimal in many of these countries owing to lack of resources and trained personnel, and this leads to unacceptably low cure rates. In the new edition of Principles and Practice of Gynecologic Oncology, we invited more international experts as authors of chapters to provide their perspectives on patterns of incidence, mortality, and treatment worldwide. We also established an International Editorial Board that was charged with providing commentary on similarities and differences in management between different countries.

We have given considerable thought to the issue of how best to maintain the relevance of the book between printed editions in an era of instant access to new information on the Internet. Solutions include smartphone access to the content of the textbook with enhanced search capabilities, as well as more frequent online updates as new studies are reported. We also now include online access to a new library of surgical videos to ensure that surgical techniques are not only read, but visualized.

It is our hope that the global focus of the 7th edition will enhance the impact of this textbook by bringing a synthesis of existing knowledge and standards of practice to the entire world. All of those involved in producing this edition are united with its readers in a shared mission to cure and eradicate gynecologic cancers worldwide.
Acknowledgments

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# Contents

Covers
Title
Copyright
Dedication
International Editorial Board
Contributors
Video List
Preface
Acknowledgments

## SECTION I
ETIOLOGY, PREVENTION, AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

1. **Epidemiology of Gynecologic Cancers**  
   Louise A. Brinton, Vikrant V. Sahasrabuddhe, Britton Trabert, and Silvia Franceschi

2. **Molecular Pathogenesis of Gynecologic Cancers**  
   Andrew Berchuck, Douglas A. Levine, Dariush Etemadmoghadam, and David D. L. Bowtell

3. **Hereditary Gynecologic Cancers**  
   Noah D. Kauff, Andrew Berchuck, and Karen H. Lu

4. **Invasion, Metastasis, and Angiogenesis**  
   Angeles A. Secord, Charlie Gourley, and Elise C. Kohn
Development and Identification of Tumor Serum Markers
Aleksandra Gentry-Maharaj and Usha Menon

Cancer Prevention Strategies
Mary B. Daly and Gina M. Mantia-Smaldone

Preinvasive Disease of the Lower Genital Tract
Britt K. Erickson, Mark H. Einstein, and Warner K. Huh

SECTION II
DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES

Perioperative and Critical Care
James J. Burke II, Scott C. Purinton, and Heather MacNew

Surgical Principles in Gynecologic Oncology
Yukio Sonoda, David Cibula, Denis Querleu, Eric Leblanc, and Oliver Zivanovic

Diagnostic Imaging
Shaunagh McDermott, Leslie K. Lee, and Susanna I. Lee

Biologic and Physical Principles of Radiation Oncology
Beth A. Erickson, Meena Bedi, Firas Mourtada, and Sunil J. Advani

Targeted Therapies in Gynecologic Cancers
Stephanie Lheureux and Amit M. Oza

Principles of Chemotherapy in Gynecologic Cancer
Stéphanie L. Gaillard and Michael A. Bookman

Pharmacology and Therapeutics in Gynecologic Cancer
David S. Alberts, Hilary Calvert, Maria Lluria-Prevatt, Paul H. Sugarbaker, and Bradley J. Monk

Immunotherapy of Gynecologic Malignancies
Paul J. Sabbatini, Kunle Odunsi, Jacobus Pfisterer, and Dmitriy Zamarin

Clinical Trials Methodology and Biostatistics
SECTION III

DISEASE SITES

18 Vulva
Emily Penick, Sushil Beriwal, Edward J. Wilkinson, and John W. Moroney

19 Vaginal Cancer
Josephine Kang, Amanda N. Fader, and Akila Viswanathan

20 Cervix Uteri
Charles A. Kunos, Fadi W. Abdul-Karim, Don S. Dizon, and Robert Debernardo

21 Corpus: Epithelial Tumors
Susana M. Campos, Larissa J. Lee, Marcela G. Del Carmen, and D. Scott McMeekin

22 Corpus: Mesenchymal Tumors
Mario M. Leitao Jr, Carmen Tornos, Aaron H. Wolfson, and Roisin O’ Cearbhaill

23 Epithelial Ovarian Cancer
Gini F. Fleming, Jeffrey D. Seidman, Anna Yemelyanova, and Ernst Lengyel

24 Ovarian Germ Cell Tumors
Daniela Matei, Robert E. Emerson, and Jubilee Brown

25 Ovarian Sex Cord–Stromal Tumors
David M. Gershenson, Sean C. Dowdy, and Robert H. Young

26 Gestational Trophoblastic Disease: Molar Pregnancy and Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasia