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Human Melanoma: From Basic Research To Clinical Application



Synopsis

Malignant melanoma is the focus of investigations which range from basic research to clinical trials with conventional therapy and with biological response modifiers. The involvement of investigators with different backgrounds in combination with recent progress in biotechnology has facilitated the characterization of the antigenic profile of melanoma cells, the analysis of the structural and functional properties of melanoma-associated antigens, and the application of immunological diagnostic and immunotherapeutic approaches to melanoma. As a result, a large body of information about various aspects of melanoma has been rapidly accumulated during the past few years. In organizing this book I aimed at providing a readily available source of information on the current research in melanoma. To this end I invited investigators with active research programs to contribute chapters describing and discussing the significance of their most recent results. To facilitate the preparation of the manuscripts and to avoid duplicating other recently published books on melanoma, I discouraged the contributors from providing extensive reviews of the literature on the various topics. Although I made every effort to be as complete as possible in the selection of the contributors, while writing this preface I realized that I had overlooked at least three investigators whose work should have been included.

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