

Second Edition

HEMATOLOGY

WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS

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HEMATOLOGY

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Preface

The purpose of this book remains the same as that stated in the preface to the first edition: to provide clinicians, in practice or in training, investigators, and students with a ready source of detailed information regarding the whole of hematology as it applies to man, with emphasis on the biochemical and physiological approach to the field. The organization of the book has been changed somewhat in order to further this purpose. We begin, as before, with discussion of the patient with hematologic disease. The chapter on lymphoangiography has been eliminated and information on that topic included in the discussions of the lymphomas. A chapter on the hematologic changes in the aged has been added in recognition of the increasing proportion of elderly people in our population.

A new part of the book, entitled "General Hematology," has been developed, consolidating information on the structure and function of the bone marrow, lymphoreticular system, and spleen, and including general discussions of genetics and of complement.

The part on replacement therapy has been reorganized into fewer chapters, but the breadth of the presentation has been retained. The organization of the rest of the book is essentially unchanged.

The multiauthor approach has been retained in order to present authoritative, up-to-date information on all topics. As before, extensive bibliographies are included to provide the interested reader with access to greater detail that can be included in an already large book. It is a truism that knowledge in medicine is increasing rapidly, but nothing clarifies the magnitude of the increase more than revision of a book designed to provide current and complete discussion of an entire field. All contributors willingly accepted this challenge and the editors are most grateful for the enormous effort made by each.

We are indebted to Yale Nemerson for advice and criticism. Bonnie Beutler provided special editorial assistance. Our secretaries deserve far more recognition than can be possible by simple acknowledgment of their attention to seemingly endless detail: Dianna Falconer, Catherine Fine, Marjorie Jordahl, Susan McEvoy, Gabriella Mironas, Marianne Moss, Doris Riso, Ilene Roberts, Rosemarie Silvano, Margaret Snyder, Kathleen Tomol, and Martha Wheeler.

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