

Contents

1	Introduction	1
	Reference	4
2	Basics of Nucleic Acids and Molecular Biology	5
2.1	Introduction	6
2.2	DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid)	7
2.2.1	Structure	7
2.2.2	Genes	8
2.2.3	Replication	8
2.2.4	The Human Genome	9
2.3	The Human Genome Project	11
2.4	RNA (Ribonucleic Acid)	12
2.4.1	Structure	12
2.4.2	Function	13
2.5	Transcription and Translation	13
2.5.1	Gene Expression	15
2.5.2	Reverse Transcription	15
2.6	Nucleic Acid Alterations	16
2.6.1	Types of DNA Alterations	16
2.6.2	Causes of DNA Alterations	18
2.6.3	Repair of DNA Alterations	18
2.7	Nucleic Alterations and Disease	20
2.7.1	Germline Alterations	20
2.7.2	Benign Genetic Variants	20
2.7.3	Somatic Alterations and Neoplasia	23
2.8	Genomes of Infectious Agents	25
2.9	Summary	25
	References	26
3	Molecular Methods	27
3.1	Introduction	28
3.2	General Considerations for Assay Design and Implementation	30
3.2.1	Types of Genetic Alterations and Performance Requirements	30
3.2.2	Specimen Type and Composition	30
3.2.3	Lab-Developed Tests (LDT) Versus FDA-Approved In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Tests ...	33

3.3	The Basics of a Molecular Test	34
3.3.1	Hybridization: Virtually All Molecular Tests Are Based on the Principle of Hybridization.	34
3.3.2	Enzymes.	35
3.4	Non-amplification Nucleic Acid Analysis Methods	36
3.4.1	Karyotyping (Cytogenetic Analysis).	36
3.4.2	In Situ Hybridization (ISH): Chromogenic In Situ Hybridization (CISH) and Fluorescent In Situ Hybridization (FISH).	38
3.4.3	Southern Blot.	40
3.4.4	Microarrays and Comparative Genomic Hybridization (CGH).	41
3.5	Amplification Methods	43
3.5.1	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)	44
3.5.2	Microsatellite Instability Analysis (MSI)	47
3.5.3	T-Cell and B-Cell Gene Rearrangement Analysis.	47
3.5.4	Real-Time PCR	49
3.5.5	Other Amplification Methods	53
3.6	Sequencing.	53
3.6.1	Sanger Sequencing.	53
3.6.2	Pyrosequencing	54
3.6.3	Next-Generation Sequencing.	55
3.7	Practical Considerations	58
3.7.1	What to Look for in a Laboratory and/or Test Result	58
3.7.2	Costs and Reimbursement	59
3.8	Summary and Looking Ahead.	60
	References.	60
4	Melanoma. Part I. Risk Assessment, Diagnosis, and Prognosis: Using Molecular Tools to Diagnose Melanoma, Predict Its Behavior, and Evaluate for Inheritable Forms	63
4.1	Introduction	64
4.2	The Genetics of Melanoma: Assessing Risk.	66
4.2.1	Loci Associated with Melanoma Risk.	67
4.2.2	Testing for Germline Mutations.	70
4.3	Diagnosis	71
4.3.1	Comparative Genomic Hybridization (CGH)	75
4.3.2	Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH).	77
4.3.3	Mutational Analysis.	81
4.3.4	Gene Expression Profiling	82
4.4	Prognosis	82
4.4.1	Molecular Evaluation of the Sentinel Lymph Node	84
4.4.2	Chromosomal Aberrations by FISH	84
4.4.3	Ocular Melanoma	85
4.4.4	Other Molecular Prognostic Biomarkers.	85
4.5	Practical Considerations for Ordering and Performing Molecular Tests	85

4.5.1	Genetic Testing for Familial Melanoma	85
4.5.2	CGH Versus FISH	86
4.5.3	Mutational Analysis of Melanoma Signaling Molecules and Gene Expression Profiling	89
4.5.4	Prognostic Testing	89
4.6	Classification of Melanoma: Current and Near-Future Perspectives	90
	References.	92
5	Melanoma. Part II. Personalized Medicine: Using Molecular Tools to Guide Targeted Therapy	97
5.1	Introduction	98
5.2	Melanoma Tumor Progression.	99
5.3	Melanoma Signaling Pathways and the Biology of Melanoma	100
5.3.1	MAP Kinase Pathway	102
5.3.2	KIT	104
5.3.3	PI3K/AKT/mTOR Pathway.	105
5.3.4	Others.	106
5.4	Clinical Trials and Therapeutic Strategies.	106
5.4.1	Signaling Molecule and Pathway Inhibition	107
5.4.2	Immunotherapy	113
5.4.3	Resistance to Therapy and Clinical Relapse	114
5.4.4	Combination Therapy and Emerging Therapeutic Strategies	115
5.5	Practical Considerations for Ordering and Performing Molecular Tests	117
5.5.1	Targeted Mutation-Specific Molecular Assays.	117
5.5.2	Immunohistochemistry	124
5.5.3	Companion Testing: The New Reality?.	125
5.6	Summary	126
	References.	127
6	Leukemia and Lymphoma. Part I. Mycosis Fungoides and Sézary Syndrome: Using Molecular Tools to Aid in the Diagnosis, Staging, and Therapy for Mycosis Fungoides and Sézary Syndrome	133
6.1	Introduction	134
6.2	Diagnosis	135
6.2.1	Clinical Features	135
6.2.2	Histology	135
6.2.3	Immunohistochemistry	135
6.2.4	The Need for Molecular Testing	138
6.2.5	Molecular Studies	138
6.2.6	Diagnostic Algorithms for MF/ SS	147
6.3	Staging and Prognosis	148
6.3.1	Assessing Prognosis by PCR.	148
6.3.2	Assessing Prognosis by FISH and aCGH	151
6.4	Therapy	151

6.5	Practical Considerations for Ordering, Performing, and Interpreting Molecular Tests	151
6.5.1	Assay Selection and Design.	152
6.5.2	Interpretation of the PCR TCR Gene Rearrangement Assay	156
6.6	Summary	161
	References.	162
7	Leukemia and Lymphoma. Part II: Primary Cutaneous B-Cell Lymphoma and Other Non-MF/SS	
	Hematopoietic Tumors	167
7.1	Introduction	168
7.2	Determination of Clonality in B-Cell Infiltrates	169
7.2.1	Immunohistochemistry and Flow Cytometry	169
7.2.2	Molecular Studies	169
7.3	Diagnostic Applications for Molecular Testing.	173
7.3.1	Primary Cutaneous B-Cell Lymphomas	174
7.3.2	Non-MF/SS Primary Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphomas	179
7.3.3	B-Cell Versus T-Cell Lymphoma.	181
7.3.4	Other Hematopoietic Tumors Primarily and Secondarily Involving the Skin.	181
7.4	Other Applications for Molecular Testing.	184
7.4.1	Prognosis	184
7.4.2	Therapy	186
7.5	Practical Considerations for Ordering, Performing, and Interpreting Molecular Tests	186
7.5.1	Gene Rearrangement Assays	186
7.5.2	Other Molecular Methods for the Diagnosis and Management of the Cutaneous Leukemia/Lymphoma Patient	193
7.6	Summary	195
	References.	195
8	Tumors of the Soft Tissue: Using Molecular Tools to Aid in the Diagnosis of Soft Tissue Tumors and the Management of the Sarcoma Patient	199
8.1	Introduction	200
8.2	Diagnosis	200
8.2.1	Genetic Aberrations in Soft Tissue Pathology.	202
8.2.2	Examples of Soft Tissue Tumors with Characteristic Molecular Defects	204
8.3	Prognosis	215
8.3.1	Translocations and Fusion Genes	216
8.3.2	Gene Amplification	216
8.4	Therapy	216
8.4.1	Fusion-Gene Targeted Therapy	217
8.4.2	Mutation-Specific and Other Signaling Pathway-Directed Therapies	217

8.5	Molecular Tests Performed on Soft Tissue Tumors and Practical Considerations	218
8.5.1	FISH.	218
8.5.2	RT-PCR	220
8.5.3	Others.	222
8.6	Summary	224
	References.	224
9	Genodermatoses. Part I: Muir-Torre Syndrome	231
9.1	Introduction	232
9.2	Pathophysiology of MMR-Defective MTS	233
9.3	Clinical Features	236
9.4	Histologic Features	237
9.5	Immunohistochemical Features.	238
9.6	Assessing MMR Defects: Immunohistochemistry and PCR-Based Assays	239
9.6.1	Immunohistochemistry for MMR	239
9.6.2	Molecular MSI Testing	239
9.6.3	IHC Versus MSI.	241
9.6.4	Genetic Testing	243
9.7	Approach to the Suspected MTS Patient.	245
9.7.1	Defining MTS	245
9.7.2	An Algorithmic Approach to the Diagnosis of MTS.	246
9.8	Summary	250
	References.	250
10	Genodermatoses. Part II: Other Hereditary Dermatologic Disease	253
10.1	Introduction	254
10.2	Genodermatoses Associated with Cutaneous and/or Visceral Tumors (Inheritable Tumor Disorders)	257
10.3	Inheritable Vascular Disorders.	263
10.4	Inheritable Bullous Disorders	263
10.5	Inheritable Keratinization Disorders	270
10.6	Ectodermal Dysplasias and Other Inheritable Disorders of the Sweat Glands, Hair, Nails, and/or Teeth	278
10.7	Inheritable Connective Tissue Disorders.	278
10.8	Inheritable Disorders of Pigmentation.	278
10.9	Inheritable Metabolic Disorders	278
10.10	Miscellaneous Disorders	301
10.11	Practical Issues of Testing	301
10.11.1	Testing Strategy	301
10.11.2	Interpretation	309
10.11.3	Cost and CPT Coding	309
10.12	Summary	311
	References.	312

11	Infectious Disease Testing	313
11.1	Introduction	314
11.2	Assay Design and Testing Strategies	316
11.3	Clinical Molecular Infectious Disease Testing	318
11.4	Viruses	319
11.5	Viral Infections Associated with Neoplasia	320
11.5.1	Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	320
11.5.2	Human Herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8)	322
11.5.3	Merkel Cell Polyomavirus (MCV or MCPyV)	323
11.6	Herpesvirus	324
11.7	Fungi	324
11.8	Parasites	326
11.8.1	Leishmania	326
11.9	Bacteria	327
11.9.1	Mycobacteria	327
11.9.2	Rickettsia	330
11.9.3	Lyme Disease	331
11.9.4	Syphilis	331
11.9.5	Bartonella	332
11.9.6	Cutaneous Anthrax	333
11.10	Drug Resistance Testing	334
11.10.1	Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	334
11.11	Genetic Factors That Influence Susceptibility/ Resistance to Infectious Agents	335
11.12	Practical Considerations	335
11.12.1	External Controls (Positive, Negative, and No-Template)	336
11.12.2	Sensitivity Control	337
11.12.3	Internal Control	337
11.12.4	Inhibition Control	337
11.13	Summary	337
	References	338
12	Emerging Molecular Applications and Summary	341
12.1	Molecular Testing in Current Clinical Practice	342
12.1.1	Clinically Significant Targets	344
12.1.2	New Technologies	345
12.2	Looking Ahead	346
12.2.1	Theranostics	346
12.2.2	Pharmacogenetics	347
12.3	Summary	352
	References	353
	Appendix	355