Preface

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Editor

The practice of pathology, and ultimately the care of patients, is becoming more dependent on specialized techniques. While in-house testing for the vast array of available diagnostic, prognostic, and predictive markers is not possible at every institution or practice, awareness of their applicability and impact on patient care is the responsibility of both the pathologist and the treating clinician. This is particularly true in an era when patients are increasingly knowledgeable about genomic and proteomic analyses and these studies are easily accessible. This issue of *Surgical Pathology Clinics* aims to address select areas of hematopathology, highlight concepts that shape our practice, and underscore the expanding role of the pathologist as a consultant. Some reviews that follow discuss approaches to common diagnostic challenges, including evaluation of low-grade lymphomas, transformation, and lymphoproliferations rich in IgG₄-positive plasma cells. Others describe how evolving insights into disease pathogenesis are

being rapidly applied to the care of patients with both myeloid and lymphoid diseases. Also included is a review on laboratory test utilization and management principles related specifically to hematopathology. Importantly, as the costs associated with testing increase in the face of diminishing reimbursement, constant re-evaluation of the diagnostic process is necessary. The presented concepts are widely applicable in diagnostic practice, and the authors hope that the reviews prove enlightening and serve as a useful resource.

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