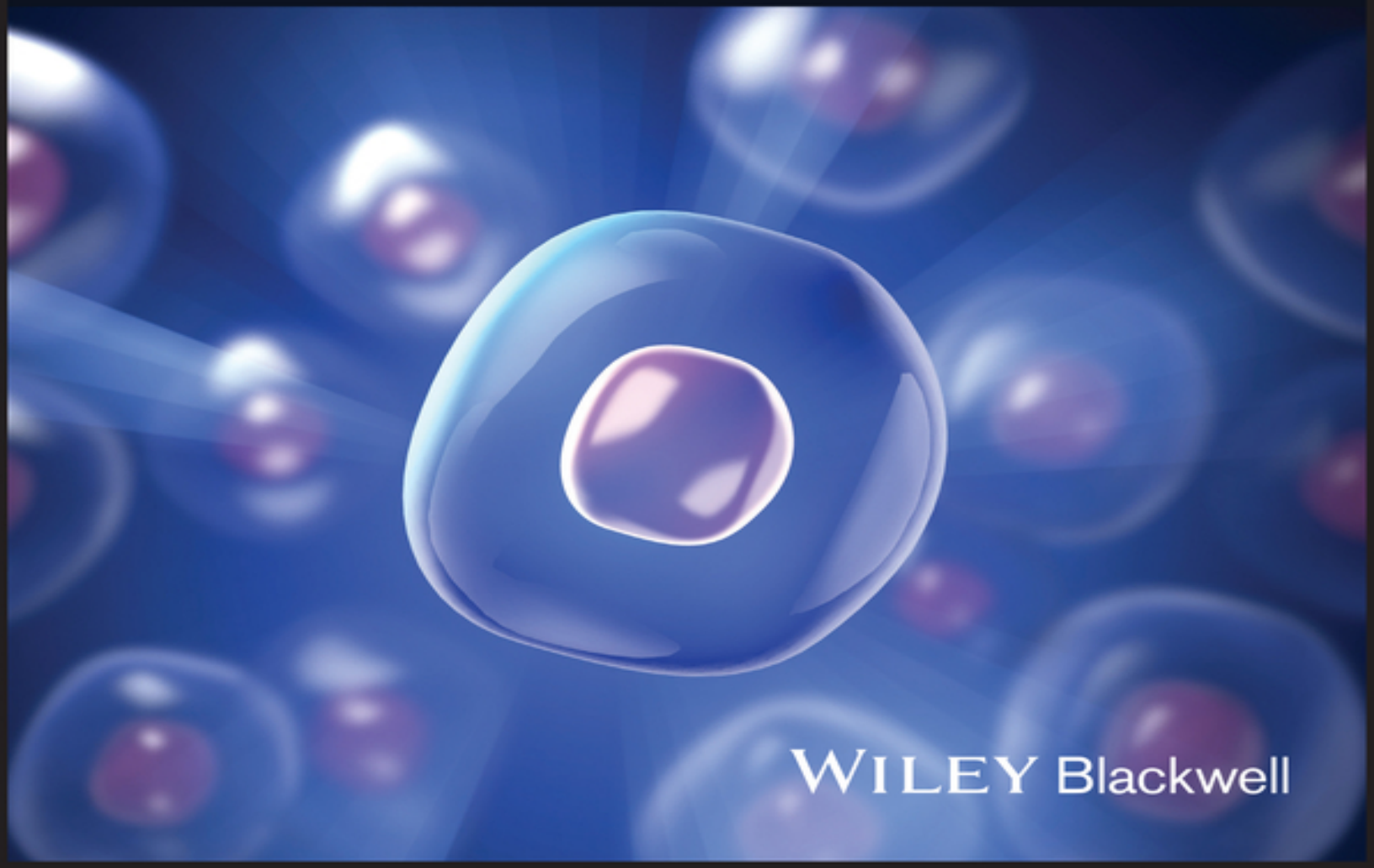


Third Edition

Handbook of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology

Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland

Caroline A. Hastings | Joseph C. Torkildson
Anurag K. Agrawal



WILEY Blackwell

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Third Edition

WILEY Blackwell

This edition first published 2021

© 2021 John Wiley & Sons Ltd

Wiley-Blackwell (1e, 2012)

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John Wiley & Sons Ltd., The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8SQ, UK

Editorial Office

9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ, UK

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Hastings, Caroline, 1960- author. | Torkildson, Joseph C., author. | Agrawal, Anurag K. (Anurag Kishor), author. | Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland (Oakland, Calif.)

Title: Handbook of pediatric hematology and oncology : Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland / Dr Caroline A. Hastings, Dr Joseph C. Torkildson, Anurag K. Agrawal.

Description: Third edition. | Hoboken, NJ : Wiley-Blackwell, 2020. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2020023659 (print) | LCCN 2020023660 (ebook) | ISBN 9781119210740 (paperback) | ISBN 9781119210764 (adobe pdf) | ISBN 9781119210757 (epub)

Subjects: MESH: Hematologic Diseases | Child | Neoplasms | Handbook

Classification: LCC RJ411 (print) | LCC RJ411 (ebook) | NLM WS 39 | DDC 618.92/994-dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020023659>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020023660>

Cover Design: Wiley

Cover Images: © Billion Photos/Shutterstock

On a day-to-day basis, the patients and their families continue to show us how to live gracefully in even the most unbearable of times and inspire us to endeavor for improved outcomes. Our experiences have taught us the magnitude of remembering our roles: “to cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always.” (anonymous, fifteenth century)

Preface

The pace of change in the field of pediatric hematology, oncology, and hematopoietic cell therapies is staggering. Molecular biology, genomics, and biochemistry have accelerated the knowledge and understanding of disease states and further highlight the complex interplay of clinical, genetic, and social factors that constantly challenge us in the rapid application of novel findings to treat patients with the goal of improved outcomes. This translation of knowledge to the unique patient before us, the true art of the physician, encompassing experience, knowledge, intuition, and understanding of the individual needs and goals of patients and families, can be overwhelming. What is needed is a practical, tested approach to analyze and address these problems to ensure timely evaluation, competent clinical care, and avoidance of pitfalls that might negatively impact the patient or future treatment options. This practical approach is achieved by spending time with patients and families and observing the myriad variations in disease and individual nuances that are not addressed in large studies or case reports, all the while expanding foundational knowledge.

This handbook represents the work of our colleagues at Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland toward this endeavor. The guidelines offered here have been used to instruct medical students, pediatric residents, nurses, pediatricians, and hematology/oncology fellows for over 25 years. This handbook provides clinical approaches for common problems in pediatric hematology, oncology, hematopoietic stem cell transplant, and newer cellular therapies; knowledge to organize and evaluate the care of your patients; and a framework to incorporate ever-

expanding psychosocial needs, clinical studies, medical treatments, and science. All of these are essential components that encompass the care of the child with blood disorders and cancer.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Yoram Unguru, MD, MS, MA, for submission of the expert case and teaching guide in [Chapter 29](#). Dr. Unguru is an attending physician in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the Herman & Walter Samuelson Children's Hospital at Sinai and Chairman of the Sinai Hospital Ethics Committee, as well as attending at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics.

We are also extremely appreciative of patient cases submitted by Dr. Christina Coleman Abadi, Assistant Professor of pediatrics at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland; Dr. Cheryl Peretz, senior research fellow and clinical instructor at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland; and Dr. Monica Davini, attending physician in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Banner—University Medical Center, Tucson Campus in Tucson, Arizona. These cases appear in [Chapters 18](#), [15](#), and [11](#), respectively.

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