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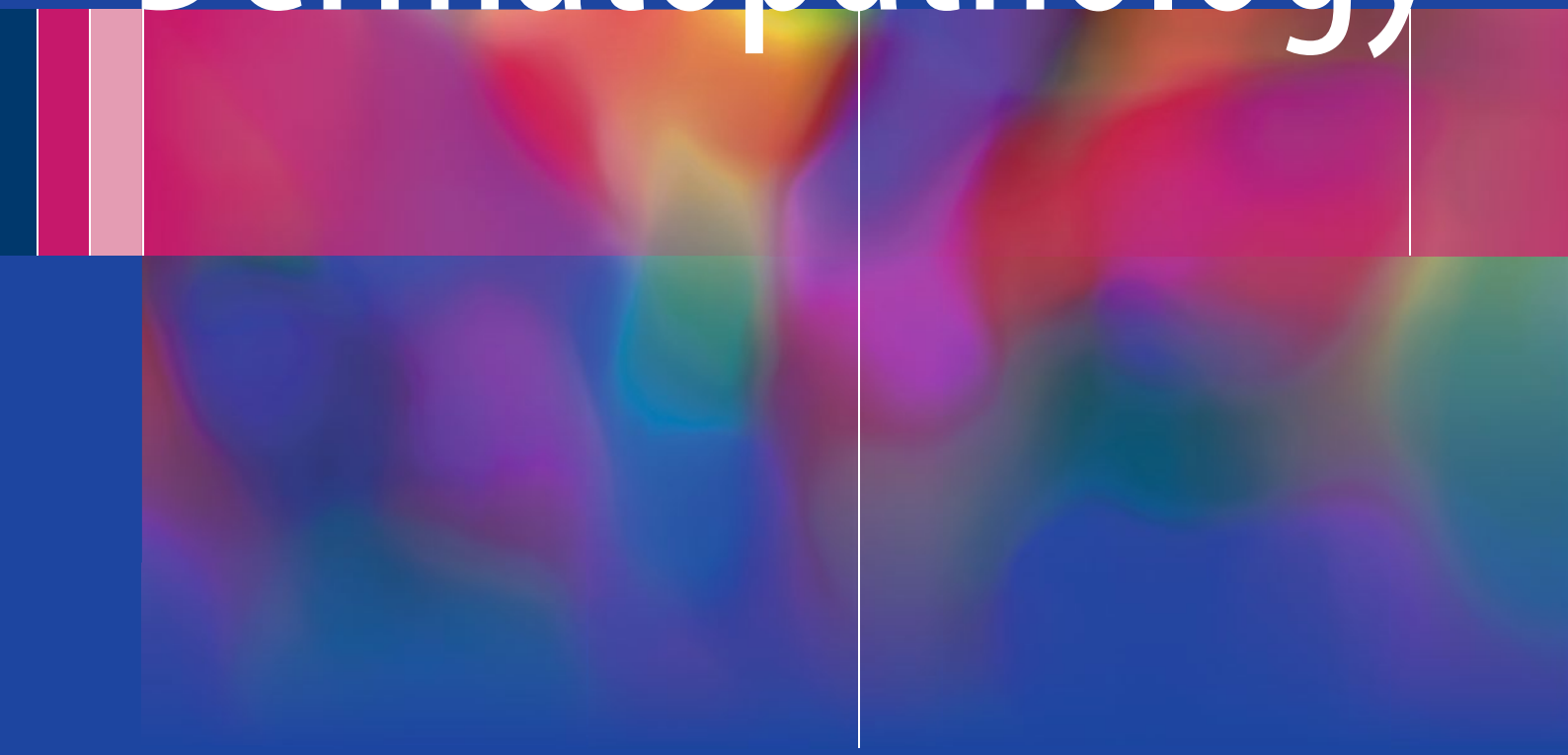
Pediatric Dermatopathology



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Thuy L. Phung, MD, PhD
Department of Pathology & Immunology
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital
Houston, Texas, USA

Crystal Y. Pourciau, MD, MPH
Departments of Dermatology and Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital
Houston, Texas, USA

Teresa S. Wright, MD
Departments of Dermatology and Pediatrics
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Memphis, TN, USA

Bruce R. Smoller, MD
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
Rochester, NY, USA

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Preface

This project was undertaken in hopes of filling a need for pathologists and dermatologists who review skin biopsies in their practice of medicine. While pediatric dermatopathology is a small niche, it is an important one, and one that slips through the cracks of the curriculum in both pathology and dermatology training programs. The nomenclature in diagnostic dermatopathology presents great problems for pathologists who do not have specialized training in dermatopathology. The problem is even more dramatic when one attempts to master dermatologic diseases that are seen largely in children with their own unique set of histologic changes. It is the authors' sincere hope that with the concerted efforts of our team of clinical pediatric dermatologists and pathology-trained dermatopathologists, we were able to put together a compendium of dermatologic diseases that is readily accessible and contains useful up-to-date information regarding the diagnostic clinical and histologic features, useful discussion of histologic mimics to be differentiated, and current knowledge of the molecular basis of diseases and their pathogenesis. We have attempted to concentrate our efforts on diseases that affect children, recognizing that some dermatologic conditions are seen in adults as well, and therefore, are not included in this volume. In situations where patients of any age may develop a dermatologic problem, we have highlighted the features that are more commonly encountered in children. We have also attempted to keep abreast with currently accepted disease classifications, particularly related to the rapidly evolving field of vascular anomalies.

We have assembled into a single book many representative clinical and histologic photographs that serve to highlight the major diagnostic features required to establish diagnoses. We received the generous support of many clinical colleagues, who helped us to accumulate clinical and histologic photographs of some of the diseases, and these contributors are acknowledged throughout the volume. The authors would also like to publicly acknowledge others whose contributions may not be obvious from the text.

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Acknowledgment

This book is the combined efforts of many dedicated individuals. First and foremost, I would like to deeply thank Drs. Teresa Wright, Crystal Pourciau, and Bruce Smoller, my coauthors of this voluminous work. We have labored together shoulder-to-shoulder, with much patience and forbearance for one another, for over two years to make this book happen. I want to sincerely thank the members of my research lab, Sriram Ayyaswamy, Wa Du and Tommy Nguyen for their valuable help with many aspects of the book. I would like to thank all my current and former mentors, teachers and colleagues, who have guided and supported my path in science and medicine. Many thanks to the wonderful staff at Springer International Publishing for patiently working with us on this book. On a more personal note, I am deeply appreciative of my dear family—my parents and sisters—for their love and support. I am eternally grateful to my parents, Thach and Thai, for their strong love and selfless sacrifice in order to give me a better life and better future as a young child when we left Vietnam as boat refugees. This book is a tribute to them. - Thuy L. Phung, MD, PhD

I would like to thank my wonderful husband, Kyle, and daughters, Evangeline and Savannah, who have provided boundless love and support throughout this endeavor. I also would like to thank my parents, Drs. Thomas Brooks III and Willie Mae Hubbard, who initially fostered my interest in medicine. Lastly, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for the amazing mentors and patients with whom I have had the privilege to work; they are a constant inspiration to me.- Crystal Y. Pourciau, MD

To Dr. Karen Wiss, for inspiring me to become a pediatric dermatologist; to Drs. Amy Nopper, Kim Horii, and Brandon Newell, for teaching me (almost) everything I know about pediatric dermatology; and to my dear husband, Patrick, for his tremendous love and support.- Teresa S. Wright, MD

In addition to my loving wife, Laura, who provides constant support and encouragement for these types of projects, I would like to acknowledge and thank our coauthor, Dr. Thuy Phung, who provided the initial idea, the motivation, and the inspiration for this work. Her enthusiasm, her drive, and her idealistic spirit provided me with the energy to undertake and bring to completion my portion of this enormous project. Her attention to detail raised the bar for all of us. Thank you, Thuy!- Bruce R. Smoller, MD

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