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/ edited by Branislav Jeremi

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Sommario/riassunto

This is the third, completely updated edition of a comprehensive book in which many of the world's leading lung cancer specialists discuss the recent advances in the radiation oncology of lung cancer and reflect on the latest research findings in lung cancer and other intrathoracic malignancies. Lung cancer remains the major cancer killer in both sexes worldwide. It is so despite significant progress in recent decades in both diagnostic and treatment approaches. New biological and

technological advances in this field are now faster incorporated in the overall decision-making process and are bringing fast and substantial improvements in both survivals and quality of life of lung cancer patients. Optimized patient-oriented approaches are reality of the third decade of this millennium and thoracic oncologists strive towards nothing but seamlessly delivering it in a continuous battle with lung cancer. The first three sections of the work cover the basic science of lung cancer, clinical investigations, including histology and staging, and a wide range of fundamental treatment considerations. Current treatment strategies for small cell and non-small cell lung cancer as well as other intrathoracic malignancies are then explained and evaluated in detail, with due attention to novel approaches that promise further improvements in outcome. The various types of treatment-related toxicity are discussed, and quality of life studies and prognostic factors are also considered. After evaluating the latest technological and biological advances, including stereotactic radiotherapy, and particle therapy, the book concludes by thorough consideration of specific aspects of clinical research in lung cancer. This concise yet comprehensive book is an invaluable resource for radiation oncologists.