Preface







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Guest Editors



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Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States and affects 1 in 3 people at some point in their lifetime. This issue of the Hematology/Oncology Clinics of North America is dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of cancer-related emergencies. The 11 articles in this issue were previously published as part of a 2-volume series in the Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America in 2009. Articles focus on specific presentation syndromes, such as malignant epidural spinal cord compression and superior vena cava (SVC) syndrome. These articles update readers on evidencebased therapies for these entities and highlight the emerging role of stenting as a therapeutic option for SVC syndrome. Also included are articles that address the neurologic, renal, and electrolyte complications encountered in cancer patients. Of particular interest are novel pharmacologic therapies developed for the treatment of tumor lysis syndrome and the syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion. Various hematologic complications of malignancy, including myeloproliferation/ hyperviscosity, venous thrombosis, and acquired bleeding disorders, are also addressed through evidence-based reviews. The issue has dedicated articles that review the toxicities associated with radiation therapy and the challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment of neutropenic enterocolitis. Finally, the important topic of pain management is comprehensively reviewed using the World Health Organization template as a basis. It has been a distinct pleasure to coedit this volume, and we thank all the authors for their outstanding contributions. We also thank the leadership team associated with the Hematology/Oncology Clinics of North America, especially Jeannette Forcina, Patrick Manley, and Kerry Holland, for their guidance and assistance. Finally, we wish to thank our patients—who continually teach us humility as physicians as we strive toward a better understanding of medicine.

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