

## **Book Review**

---

---

### **Chronic Myeloid Leukemia: An Update with Indian Experience** **Editor Prof. M B Agarwal. April 2007**

---

This attractively packaged hardbound volume boasts an impressive list of authors from some of the leading institutions from India and abroad. It was published on the occasion of the 'CML Symposium' at Bombay Hospital in April 2007 with many of the authors as guest faculty.

The book is organized into 19 Chapters that cover the entire topics related to CML ranging from basic science to latest management options. Each Chapter is organized into Sections that include the highlighted 'Abstract/Keywords' and 'Take Home Messages'. The content is clearly and succinctly presented in a logical sequence that makes its assimilation possible for a junior level trainee just introduced to Hematology/Oncology. In this context the book positions itself as a crisp and sharp presentation of the State-of-the-Science rather than a rambling discourse on various controversies and uncertainties. This should make it a valuable tool for review of the subject by post graduates.

The unique aspect of the content is the Indian data that is incorporated in most Chapters. This helps to place the international data in its proper Indian context. For e.g. in the Chapter on 'Molecular Monitoring...' by Mishra et al, the difficulties in standardization of RQ-PCR at AIIMS and the discordant results from Indian patients are clearly discussed. This helps Indian clinicians to appreciate the hurdles in following all relevant international recommendations to the last letter. The Chapter on 'Laboratory Diagnosis...' by Verma et al

nicely elucidates the conventional tests in the initial work-up of patients including a discussion on differential diagnosis. They also discuss the unusual morphological findings in Indian patients. In this era of molecular diagnostics their Chapter is a valuable reminder on the importance of getting the basics right. The last Chapter of the book is a stimulating discussion on the 'M D Anderson Experience...' by Stellrecht et al.

The printing and paper quality are excellent. The Tables are clearly presented; however they are not in the standard format usually requested by most journals. The Figures are also clear; however it may have been better if they were in colour. The Title page indicates that this is the First Edition; I anticipate the future editions with pleasure. However Indian research would have to keep pace with international advances to justify the Indian focus in future.

This a 'must have' volume for all Indian clinicians and researchers who have an interest in or manage chronic myeloid leukemia. Libraries in teaching institutions would also be well advised to keep copies in their collection. I congratulate the Publishers Ranbaxy Super Specialties, Dr. M B Agarwal and the contributors on this effort.

**Sudeep Gupta**  
Dept. of Medical Oncology  
Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai.  
E-mail: Sudeepgupta04@yahoo.com

