Foreword

It is a pleasure to present the second volume in the ASCO Educational Book Collections series. As the name suggests, this book compiles a carefully curated selection of published articles from the ASCO Educational Book, a National Library of Medicine-indexed and peer-reviewed scholarly resource. This collection brings together articles on the chosen theme of immuno-oncology.

Immuno-oncology has dramatically changed how we approach cancer diagnosis and treatment. Once, the principles behind this field seemed to be the stuff of science-fiction, and, although many mysteries and challenges remain regarding the function of innate immune responses, the breakthroughs we have made in adaptive responses have already been shown to offer new hope for patients with previously poor prognoses across several tumor types. Our ability to rapidly decipher the genome, understand host-tumor interactions, and create therapeutic blockades for evasive immune pathways are some of the most encouraging new developments. However, the response rates are still modest, and, clearly, more efforts are required to improve outcomes with these treatments, especially for solid tumors. Ultimately, our advancement in this field carries the promise of radically improved outcomes for all of our patients so that they can live better, longer lives after a cancer diagnosis.

The educational articles in this series were chosen by Associate Editor Dr. Nathan Pennell and me because they provide an overview of the latest developments in this field and some of the best disease-specific breakthroughs that have been made.

We invite you to read through the exceptional contributions that comprise this volume, which represent only a fraction of the high-quality articles that have been published in the ASCO Educational Book. For access to complete ASCO Educational Book volumes, please visit www.asco.org/edbook.

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