

# **BOOK REVIEW:**

## **Introduction to Oncogenes and Molecular Cancer Medicine.**

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**Ross, Dennis W**  
**Springer, New York, Berlin, 1998, 0-387-98392-9, DM 59.00**

This book is written for colleagues who want themselves to be informed on basic principles and the state of the art of molecular biology with specific focus on molecular disease diagnosis. Consecutively, the book is divided into two major parts: the first explains the principles of a gene, the nature of cellular growth and senescence, the function of genes, especially oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes, and multiple-step-theories on causes of cancer. The second part describes clinical examples of molecular oncology. It contains the principles of molecular diagnostics, and its application on specific cancer phenotypes such as lymphomas, colon, uterine and breast cancer. Each chapter is being introduced by an overview which describes the essentials in an easy-to-understand-way, i.e., is written for readers who have no or only very limited ideas of the discussed subject. This general procedure is followed in the whole book, which makes it easy to read. On the other hand, colleagues who expect details and "on-the-top information" might be disappointed. The reference include only overview articles or textbooks; however, it should be noted that some internet addresses have been included. In summary, the book is of interest for colleagues who want to get informed at a basic level and who have no ideas of molecular biology, or who are students just leaving the high school.

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