Foreword

by the German Society for the Diagnostic Study of the Cerebrospinal Fluid and Clinical Neurochemistry

The importance of diagnostic study of the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) is evident to all neurologists, neurosurgeons, psychiatrists, pediatricians, and internists, and to specialists in many other medical disciplines. Without CSF studies, a large number of clinical diagnoses could never be made or confirmed. Among all studies of this type, cytological examination of the CSF plays a central, indispensable role. Its proper performance demands considerable expertise, but it can nevertheless be accomplished relatively rapidly and inexpensively. The authors thus deserve all the more praise for preparing this comprehensive cytological atlas. This reference work illustrates CSF cytological findings with more than 300 beautifully and sharply reproduced color images obtained from clinical studies. The authors’ detailed and authoritative explanations draw on the expertise they have gained over decades of experience in CSF cytology. This atlas thus makes an important contribution to quality assurance in CSF diagnosis and to the training and continuing education of clinical CSF cytologists and laboratory physicians.

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