To Alex, David, and Jax, with love
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In other words, a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down. That was the watchword for the first edition of the *Art & Science of Cytopathology*, and the tradition continues in this completely revised and rewritten second edition. *Useful* knowledge is still best assimilated when rendered *sweet* to the reader. So we have tried to find ways to *delight* and *instruct* the reader simultaneously. The features that made the original edition of the *Art & Science* useful and sweet are still here (and in even more droves): thousands of images, hundreds of summary lists (MaxFax), and scores of tables, including image-based tables that couple morphologic descriptions with real microscopic appearances. The microscopic imaging ranges from scanning to oil immersion magnifications, revealing diagnostic detail in Papanicolaou and Romanowsky stains, along with immunocytochemical, liquid-based, molecular, and special stain preparations as most useful. As before, each diagnostic chapter features a synoptic atlas of large images that are carefully chosen and described to facilitate quick review (perhaps for board exams?).

The 4 volumes are arranged by general topic. Volume 1 is Exfoliative Cytology, Volume 2 is Superficial Aspiration Cytology, and Volume 3 is Deep Aspiration Cytology. Volume 3 also includes an Excursus from pure cytodiagnostics comprising chapters on microbiology, the cell, stains, the microscope, statistics, and history of cytology—as well as new contributed chapters on lab operations and regulation, and molecular cytopathology. Finally, we’ve created a supportive Volume 4 in which are found the references for all of the chapters—over 25,000 of them—together with a master comprehensive index that complements the volume-specific indices found in the other 3 volumes. So you have an extraordinarily comprehensive bibliography of cytopathology, yet you only have to handle it when you specifically need the full citations.

So what’s new in the 15 years since the first edition’s debut? Well, the digested contents of over 15,000 new articles selected—about 1,000 per year—that have been published since the release of the original edition. That’s a lot of new information. Classification schema have changed over the years, taking an increasingly molecular turn. The text reflects the twistings and turnings of various classification systems, such as the Bethesda systems, the 2008 WHO hematologic classification, and—hot on the presses—the latest diagnostic system for carcinoma formerly classified as bronchioloalveolar carcinoma. But the book is careful to relate well-established approaches to diagnosis and widely used nomenclature with the most current proposed schemes—nothing useful and familiar is discarded simply because it is not strictly au courant.

All of the photomicrographs retained from the first edition were reimaged to take advantage of new digital imaging techniques. In addition, new images were chosen from over 50,000 new photomicrographs to fill gaps, increase the degree of variation that could be displayed, and to show some exotics that have rarely been seen in textbooks of cytopathology before now. We’ve also modified materials and design to make each volume easier to handle and a little less heavy, and yet more image- and information-packed page after page than the original edition (7,000 images alone!).

But we haven’t lost track of the art amidst all that new science. Indeed, the *art* in *The Art & Science* has inspired others over the years to see opportunities for their own art in science. The frontispieces of each of the first 3 volumes display some of the work of Henry Li, who combines a little Chinese brushwork with photomicrography. We are gratified to see how this work has touched so many others around the world.

We hope that this new edition will continue to be a practical storehouse of information for everyday problems that is also a pleasure to use, and that it will enhance the art & science of your ongoing cytologic practice. *Let us advance knowledge so that life may be enriched.*

Mac DeMay
Joshua Weikersheimer

Mac begins writing (c 1958 CE) with Laurie advising