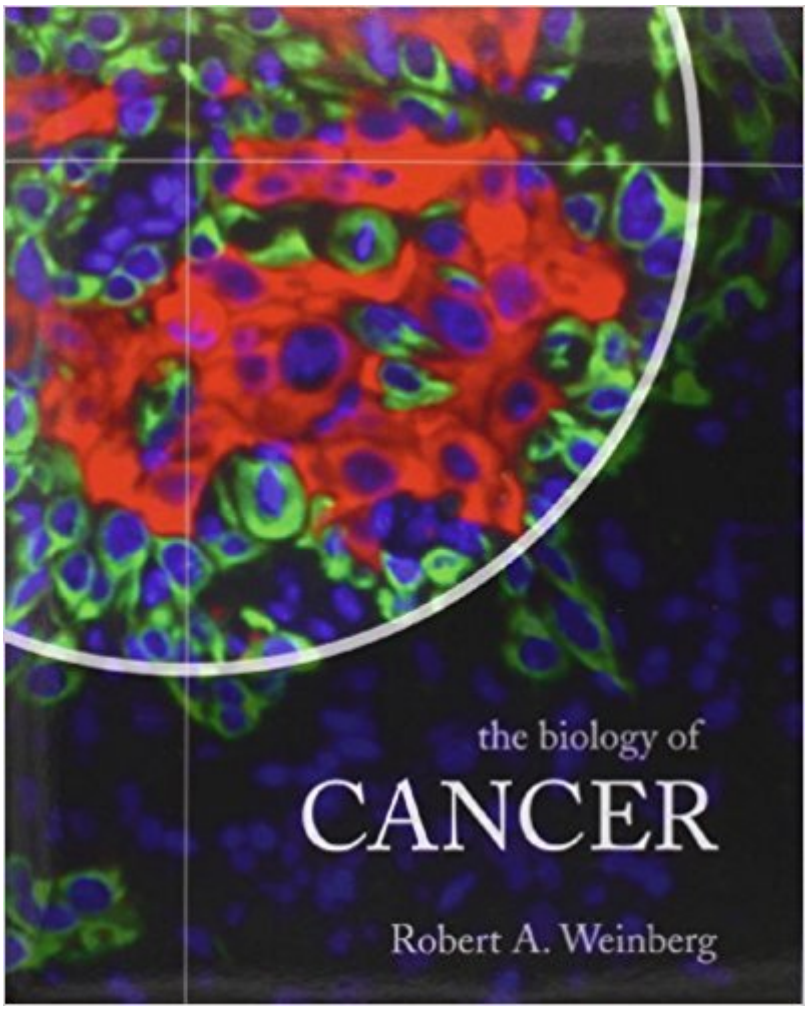
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The Biology Of Cancer



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Synopsis

The Biology of Cancer is a textbook for undergraduate and graduate biology students as well as medical students studying the molecular and cellular bases of cancer. The book presents the principles of cancer biology in an organized, cogent, and in-depth manner. The clarity of writing and the lucid full-color art program make the book accessible and engaging. The information unfolds through the presentation of key experiments which give readers a sense of discovery and provides insights into the conceptual foundation underlying modern cancer biology. The Biology of Cancer synthesizes the findings of three decades of recent cancer research and proposes a conceptual framework from which to teach about these discoveries. It provides the necessary structure, organization, and content for a course on cancer biology for advanced undergraduates and beginning doctoral students. The book is comprehensive and offers many pedagogical features to assist teaching and learning. The book includes many recent and topical references, and is intended to empower the student to move directly into the primary research literature. The text is up-to-date and provides current information on topics such as tumor stem cells and recently introduced chemotherapeutics. State-of-the-art techniques are discussed throughout. Modern biomedical research is explored, helping readers to hone their analytical abilities and to assimilate and think clearly about complex biological processes. The Biology of Cancer provides insights into many aspects of immunology, developmental biology, and neurobiology. The exceptional full-color art program contains many images published for the first time. The book is extensively illustrated with schematic drawings, micrographs, computer-generated models and graphs. The pieces were chosen to support and clarify the concepts, as well as to supply additional interest. Besides its value as a textbook, The Biology of Cancer will be a useful reference for individuals working in biomedical laboratories, and for clinical professionals.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an impressively thoughtful, beautifully balanced analysis of where we stand today in the critical attempt to understand, and thereby defeat cancer as a scourge on humanity. Not only is it the perfect text for a serious course on cancer biology, it should be read by every cancer researcher - Bruce Alberts, University of California, San Francisco, USA The Biology of Cancer is no doubt the definitive statement on its topic today. -Science, 11 August 2006: Vol. 313. no. 5788 There is no comparable text in cancer biology and no single book that is so current and informative.Ã Â -Nature, November 30, 2006, Vol 444 'The Biology of Cancer, written by the distinguished American cancer biologist Robert Weinberg, is by far the most extensive of these new works and, as the product of a single author, is a remarkable achievement. The book is beautifully illustrated in full colour and well supplied with key review articles. It is extremely well written in language that should be accessible to the non-expert. Overall, this is a remarkable achievement that is by far the most comprehensive coverage of this field available.' - The Times Higher Education Supplement, February 23rd 2007 "The breadth of the topics covered, the clear writing style, the logical organization and the beautiful figures make The Biology of Cancer a classic text for any biologist interested in cancer...An additional strength of the book is the multimedia CD...Ã Â|Thus, The Biology of Cancer is not only a great read but also an outstanding learning tool."-Nature Cell Biology (November 2007) vol. 9, no. 11

Dr. Robert A. Weinberg is a founding member of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and the Daniel K. Ludwig Professor for Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He is an internationally recognized authority on the genetic basis of human cancer. Dr. Weinberg and his colleagues isolated the first human cancer-causing gene, the ras oncogene, and the first known tumor suppressor gene, Rb, the retinoblastoma gene. The principal goal of his research program is to determine how oncogenes, their normal counterparts (proto-oncogenes), and tumor suppressor genes fit together in the complex circuitry that controls cell growth. More recently, his group has succeeded in creating the first genetically defined human cancer cells. He is particularly interested in applying this knowledge to improve the diagnosis and

treatment of breast cancer. Dr. Weinberg is the author or editor of five books and more than 325 articles. His three most recent books, intended for a lay audience, are "One Renegade Cell", "Racing to the Beginning of the Road: The Search for the Origin of Cancer" and "Genes and the Biology of Cancer," co-authored with Dr. Harold E. Varmus, former Director of the National Institutes of Health. He is an elected Member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Among Dr. Weinberg's many honors and awards are the Discover Magazine 1982 Scientist of the Year, the National Academy of Sciences/U.S. Steel Foundation Award in Molecular Biology, the Sloan Prize of the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, the Bristol-Myers Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Research, the Harvey Prize from the American Society for Technion Israel Institute of Technology, the Gairdner Foundation International Award, the Keio Medical Foundation Prize, the 1997 National Medal of Science, the City of Medicine Award and the 2004 Wolf Foundation Prize and the Prince of Asturias Science Prize. He has served on scientific advisory boards for the Institute of Molecular Pathology in Vienna, Austria, the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, Israel, and the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Born in Pittsburgh in 1942, Dr. Weinberg received his BS (1964) and PhD (1969) degrees in Biology from MIT. He did postdoctoral research at the Weizmann Institute and the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, and then returned to MIT in 1972. In 1982, he was appointed Professor of Biology at MIT and also became one of the five original Members of the Whitehead Institute. He has been an American Cancer Society Research Professor at Whitehead and MIT since 1985.

Definitely the right textbook for a comprehensive introduction to cancer. Like a giant review article, but with more breathing room to go into historical experiments and explain how we have arrived at the current understanding of cancer. And, lots of excellent illustrations and micrographs. You are getting more than a typical textbook; it is more like a work of literature. "Sidebars" are used often for things to read if you have the time.If you are not an expert in cell biology, the book takes care to explain concepts in the context of cancer; for example, it gives a primer on the immune system at the beginning of the immunology chapter.Note, this is not a textbook of cancers or pathology, but of our current understanding of how all cancers work, mostly at the molecular level. I am reading this as a medical student and for that purpose, it is both too long and missing the pathology that I need, but I don't regret it. Like I said, this textbook is more about providing a complete and up-to-date understanding for the science-minded individual. On that basis I can recommend it to an enthusiastic undergraduate.

The biology of cancer-first edition by Prof. R. A. Weinberg was an immediate hit. A masterpiece for clarity, sublime scholarship and style. The second edition has all of the qualities appreciated by the readers including a very solid chapters update. All chapters have been rewritten and new data added covering the latest trend in scientific literature. A DVD is included containing images and movies.The book is further enhanced by a process of revision and update that magically cover almost any aspect, including immunology, therapy and cell biology. Prof. Weinberg is famous for scientific articles with a clear and incisive prose and the book offers all the nuances of his style. In addition, topics are extremely well integrated. Students and scientists will be happy to see how chapters are offering superlative insights with a unique perspective of the field. I was waiting the second edition for several years. And I am surprised to see how a masterpiece morphed into another one. Images and printing are state of the art.

My oncologist thinks Weinberg is the best. This is an amazingly well written book. I do not have a professional science background (although my husband does) but I was able to deal with it. It would help (a lot) to have biology at least at the level of a good intro college course. For the exciting material on cell signaling I found myself going to The Essential Cell Biology by Alberts et al. to pick up some background. When I took biology in college cell signaling was not the big deal it has become. Essential Cell Biology is another really great and well written book! On the other hand, the Biology of Cancer is not an oncology book. It is a basic science text. This is not to say that Weinberg does not mention clinical applications, but the focus is on understanding the basic science of cancer. Really, this is a great and fascinating read. I almost found myself cheering for the intrepid cancer cells no longer in my body (hopefully) Almost.

The book is almost 900 pages in length. I am currently on page 350 and can’t put it down. It is as technically informative as an Alberts Biology book and as intense a read as any of the great Stephen King Novels. Weinberg recommends that the book be read from start to finish and not to jump around. It does seem reading from beginning to end really is the best way to absorb the material. I just wish I could read faster to discover what is coming up sooner. Weinberg does a beautiful job. The figures are informative. The images are beautiful. The accompanying movies are interesting. I estimate that it will take me about 4 to 6 months to read the entire book if I read a chapter (60+ pages) every 1 to 1.5 weeks. You could read it faster if pushed to do the reading while taking a class or were extremely motivated.

Comprehensive book to get an updated knowledge of cancer and all the processes involved. Contains good figures and tables to make the contents clear. For people with a strong background in biological sciences

It is better than I expected. I was expecting a more erudite exposition with lots of organic chemistry equations. But, the book is highly readable. Of course, it does require the reader to have cell biology background. I am into the 6th chapter right now and it is getting more interesting.

First off I need to state that I am not an oncologist, oncology fellow or graduate student. I am an internist that practices general internal medicine. I found this book to be absolutely fascinating and a must read for all physicians, regardless of specialty. It is well written and Dr. Weinberg takes an incredibly complex topic and lays it out step by step in a fashion that if read slowly enough, and scrupulously, unfolds into a beautifully laid out system that makes the reader want to keep reading, and learning, and finally understanding why cancer is such a formidable foe. This topic is a difficult read in any format however it is presented in such a way in this textbook like style that a generalist like myself, many years away from medical school, could follow it like a novel. I strongly recommend this book to those that want an understanding of how cancers come about in normal tissues and how it is they can survive, and thrive and too often triumph. This book is not only an academic exercise but has been invaluable to me in my practice. Every day one comes across the terms that the reader learns in this book. This includes cell signaling, cell membrane receptors, and targeted therapies directed at molecules found in the cytoplasm of cancer cells. I will buy this book again if an updated edition comes out in the future. If you love medicine and realize that you need to truly understand the pathophysiology or molecular biology of cancer to be better prepared to take care of your patients, then buy this book.

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