

Book review: “Dermatological Oncology in Clinical Practice -Towards the National program for prevention and early detection of melanoma 2023-2026”

editor Academician Mirna Šitum

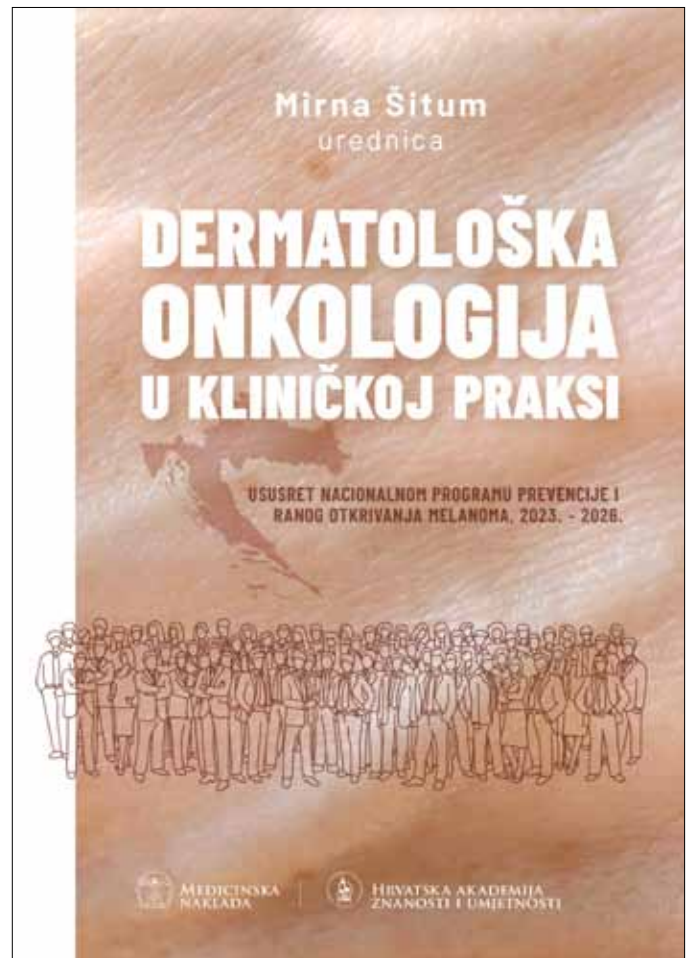
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“Dermatological Oncology in Clinical Practice -Towards the National program for prevention and early detection of melanoma 2023-2026”, editor Academician Mirna Šitum

The scientific monograph, “Dermatological oncology in clinical practice - Towards the National framework for the prevention and early detection of melanoma 2023-2026,” edited by Academician Mirna Šitum, published by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and Medicinska naklada. Monograph was prepared for the occasion of the twentieth traditional scientific dermatovenereological symposium “National program for prevention and early detection of melanoma: twenty years of enthusiasm of Croatian dermatologists,” organized by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Department for Medical Sciences, Department of Dermatology and Venereology, University Hospital Center Sestre milosrdnice and the University of Zagreb School of Dental Medicine, Croatian Association of Dermatological Oncology of the Croatian Medical Association, and the Croatian Dermatovenereological Society of the Croatian Medical Association. The monograph consists of 97 pages divided into 20 chapters, with a prominent foreword content, and a list of authors. Forty-three authors from various medical fields, engaging in the interdisciplinary field of dermatological oncology, participated in writing this book.

The book provides an overview of a range of interesting entities and case presentations of patients in the field of dermatological oncology diagnosed and treated in dermatovenereological clinics, both in private clinics and general and county hospitals, as well as in major Departments of four Clinical Hospital Centers. The first part of the monograph is dedicated to melanoma, from extremely rare congenital forms to presentations of rare clinical forms of melanoma, the diversity of metastatic melanoma presentation, side effects and complications of targeted and immunological oncological therapies for metastatic melanoma, up to values of digital digital dermoscopy in diagnosing melanoma and the challenges of aligning clinical and dermoscopic findings with the histopathological diagnosis of melanoma. The second part of the monograph illustrates various types of non-melanoma malignant skin tumors that are rarely diagnosed. This includes the presentation of two cases of angiosarcoma of the skin, Kaposi's sarcoma as a sign of HIV infection, coexistence of T- and B-cell lymphoproliferative diseases, metastatic lesions on the skin associated with primary breast carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma in



skin lesions resulting from hidradenitis suppurativa, diagnostically challenging “pink lesions,” among which are the diagnoses of non-neural granular cell tumors, earlobe tumors, and finally, nodular tumor lesions of infectious nature. The special and added value of the monograph comes from 75 original clinical, histopathological, and immunohistochemical photographs that support the text and make it clearer. At the end of each chapter, the authors have highlighted an extensive list of literature referring to recent works from domestic and international scientific literature. As emphasized by the editor in the foreword, the choice of topics presented in the monograph demonstrates the complexity of the dermatovenereological and dermatooncological profession and science, especially because many dermatooncological entities in everyday practice remain unrecognized and are diagnosed late by physicians of various specialties.

Throughout the book, the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation and a multidisciplinary approach is clearly expressed, as it is the only correct path to a comprehensive approach to patients with oncological diseases in dermatology.

Finally, the monograph outlines the extensive knowledge and experience of Croatian dermatologists and their excellence, resulting from continuous long-term education in the field of dermatological oncology in all dermatovenerological institutions in the Republic of Croatia.

All the authors are long-standing participants in public health activities for the prevention and early detection of melanoma and other malignant skin tumors across various regions of the Republic of Croatia. Their dedicated work has been translated into a new national program, the National Program for Prevention and Early Detection of Melanoma 2023-2026. Therefore, this monograph also serves as an acknowledgment of enthusiasm, continuous learning, dedication, and commitment toward the significant goal of Croatian dermatovenerologists, whose foundations were laid over twenty years ago.

Ultimately, this work, in all its elements, represents a valuable contribution to the study of the progressive and vital part of medicine: dermatological oncology. It will prove useful in the education of dermatovenerology specialists and subspecialists, dermatological oncologists, oncologists and radiotherapists, internist oncologists and oncologic surgeons, dermatopathologists and specialists in pathology and cytology, radiologists, as well as family medicine specialists.