Preface

Modern Management of Pulmonary Metastases

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Editors

The management of pulmonary metastases has evolved considerably over the last several decades, yet is still a controversial issue, in part due to the lack of prospective data regarding operative and nonoperative management. In this issue of *Thoracic Surgery Clinics*, we offer a comprehensive, well-organized, and state-of-the-art synopsis of the essential topics regarding the management of pulmonary metastases, including options for local therapy, conventional systemic therapy, immunologic therapy, and isolated perfusion strategies.

Understanding the biology of pulmonary metastases is essential to understanding the options for treatment. The role of surgery is debated articulately, and this argument sheds light on the importance of patient selection, among other important principles. The role of open versus minimally invasive surgical approaches is also analyzed, including the trends that favor the thoracoscopic approach. Local control with surgery is currently being challenged by the various options of ablative therapies.

While the management of pulmonary metastases is founded on these fundamental concepts, individual patient management is also influenced by the primary histology, and the management of the most common histologies is also reviewed: colorectal

cancer and other epithelial malignancies, sarcoma, and germ cell tumors. Finally, the innovative approaches of isolated pulmonary suffusion and perfusion are discussed.

With the development of more effective systemic therapy for metastatic disease, it is probable that more patients will be considered candidates for management of pulmonary metastases. A thorough understanding of the biology, evaluation, and options for treatment are essential in order to achieve the best outcomes.

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