

# FOREWORD

**F**irst published in French, an English translation of Joffrey Ferial's reference book *Interprétation de l'héмограмme* is now available for laboratories and hematologists all over the world.

What distinguishes this book from others is the focus on practical approaches to the interpretation of the Complete Blood count (CBC). For each hematological disease, in a unique graphic fashion, Joffrey Ferial outlines concrete steps from initial screening to final diagnosis, identifies the proper tests to be performed as follow-up to an abnormal CBC and their sequence. For each test, interpretation and caveats are discussed. Specific relevance of test is often discussed in the context of pediatric, adult or geriatric patients.

There are 3 main parts in the book:

The first part is focused on outlining the proper diagnostic pathways when facing a specific abnormality in the CBC. 18 scenarios are presented which cover the most common and clinically relevant presentations for red cell, platelet, and WBC disorders. For each scenario, pathophysiology, normal values and their expected variations, pre-analytical and analytical interferences are discussed before presenting a suggested work-up algorithm, with suggestions on how the various findings should be interpreted in adult, pediatric and geriatric patients. This practical approach is complemented by multiple tables which summarize the major finding according to disease categories.

The second part presents 48 chapters dealing with specific hematological diseases. For each of these diseases, a well summarized overview is presented, followed by a discussion of the clinical and hematological features of the disease, and a discussion of the interpretation of the appropriate test for disease diagnosis and management.

The third part is dedicated to useful information in daily clinical and laboratory practice, covering pre-analytical and analytical issues, morphologic and immunophenotypic abnormalities and monitoring of hematological adverse reactions.

Joffrey Ferial's book is an extremely useful, practical resource for everyday practice and an exceptionally complete and detailed teaching tool for new generations. I'm confident that it will become a trusted resource for clinical and laboratory hematologists.

**Carlo Brugnara, MD**

Medical Director of the Hematology & Coagulation Laboratory  
Boston Children's Hospital  
Professor of Pathology  
Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA, USA