Filgrastim (r-methug-CSF) in practice: Second edition

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The book edited by G Moostyn, TM Bexter and Foote was first published in 1998. This is the second improved edition. Introduction of filgrastim and other growth factors have influenced the practice of chemotherapy. There was a lack of monogram dealing with CSF comprehensively. This book fills in the need for a complete monogram. The book has six chapters. The first deals with biology, pharmacology and biochemistry of filgrastim. Later chapters deal with newer indications of filgrastim like autoimmune disease, diabetic foot ulcers and infection. The concluding chapters deal with practical aspects of dose, techniques of administration and indications. The emphasis of the book is on the direct relation between cumulative chemotherapy dose and eventual survival.

It can be construed as an effort to rationalise dose escalation with CSF. The chapter dealing with filgrastim in pneumonia deals with the use of the drug in treatment of nonneutropenic infections disease such as neonatal sepsis, pneumonia, burn wounds and intractable intraabdominal sepsis.

Editors have covered extensively the use of CSF. May be negative trial of CSF as radiation protector and early reports of potential for thermal senstisation could have been included.

Filgrastim in clinical practice is an excellent reference book for oncologists. It is an extremely readable book with consistent style.