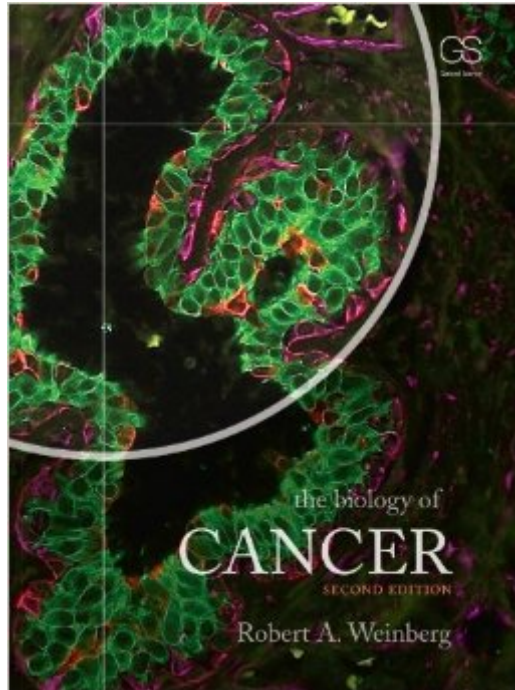


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# The Biology Of Cancer, Second Edition



## Synopsis

Thoroughly updated and incorporating the most important advances in the fast-growing field of cancer biology, *The Biology of Cancer*, Second Edition, maintains all of its hallmark features admired by students, instructors, researchers, and clinicians around the world. *The Biology of Cancer* is a textbook for students studying the molecular and cellular bases of cancer at the undergraduate, graduate, and medical school levels. The principles of cancer biology are presented in an organized, cogent, and in-depth manner. The clarity of writing, supported by an extensive full-color art program and numerous pedagogical features, makes the book accessible and engaging. The information unfolds through the presentation of key experiments that give readers a sense of discovery and provide insights into the conceptual foundation underlying modern cancer biology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This textbook, aimed at the advanced undergraduate and graduate biology and medical students covers the basic biology of cancer at the molecular and cellular level. Research into cancer in many different directions has been continuing at an accelerated pace since about World War II. In 1975 a

major breakthrough was made by H.E. Varmus and J.M. Bishop on San Francisco. The result has been the creation of the new branch of biology covered by this book. The amount of information discovered in the three decades since then has given us an immense database on the root causes of cancer. The basic discovery that cancer is not one disease but many, some 110 at last count, has led to vast amounts of data. This book begins to lay out the underlying laws and principles that are beginning to emerge from that data. At the same time, this book is written as a recruiting pamphlet to attract new generations of researchers to move the science forward. While the book points out the discoveries that have been made, it also points out areas where questions remain. At 850 pages, this is a large book, covering an immense amount of material. In addition there is a CD-ROM with even more material. It has figures, tables, micrographs loaded into Powerpoint presentations that cover each chapter which provides an excellent study aid. There are mini-lectures on various subjects. There are also several movies that will aid in the understanding of some of the processes involved. A poster 'The Pathways of Human Cancer' summarizes many of the signaling pathways implicated in tumor development. This poster has been produced by Cell Signaling Technology. The rate of development in the field means that this book will need a new edition shortly, but for the moment this represents the state of the art as it is known today.

As a colorectal cancer survivor, I've undertaken a self-study of my cancer in particular, and the disease in general. Saltz's Colorectal Cancer is the comprehensive text for me, but it is better read with a foundation in the nuts and bolts of the disease. Sompayrac's How Cancer Works is a wonderful text for explaining what the nuts and bolts are, but this book, Biology of Cancer, not only explains these in better detail, it also explains how researchers figured all this out. The illustrations, graphs and photos are worth the price of the book itself--you can see the discoveries unfold in front of your own eyes. You don't have to be a scientist to start reading it, but you will probably have to become something of a scientist and retain what you are absorbing as you progress through the book. This is a textbook that is something of an all-star collection of information from a variety of scientific research textbooks.

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.

This is one of the best books that I have read on any topic. The science of cancer is fascinating because it involves almost all aspects of cell biology. This book presents the subject in a clear, well-organized manner based on the experimental evidence. The author draws conclusions carefully always including possible alternative explanations so the reader senses the full complexity of the problem. He expresses a welcome skepticism about current cancer treatments and frankly discusses the controversies involved. The author has successfully organized a huge body of information in a way that makes it easy to read and understand.

First you must consider whom the author is- Dr. Weinberg is a world renowned cancer researcher who has made fundamental contributions to cancer research, discovering some of the most important oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes (Ras and Rb). He's also a member of the national academy of sciences, etc...As a student working in a cancer research lab, I found the book to be highly instructive. Sure, I can just read review articles especially Annual Reviews for a lot of the things in the textbook, but there is no better single source for all things related to cancer in one package. The figures are very nice as well, and they are simplified for easy viewing (FACS plot will not have jagged lines, for example). However, the book is not missing in terms of primary data either as it has plenty of data from primary sources to demonstrate many of the points. For example, there is a 50 page chapter on p53 alone. You're not likely to find a 50 page review article on p53 anywhere else. And the text is filled with recent references too, as evidenced by a 2006 ChIP paper's figure, referenced in the p53 chapter.

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