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The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

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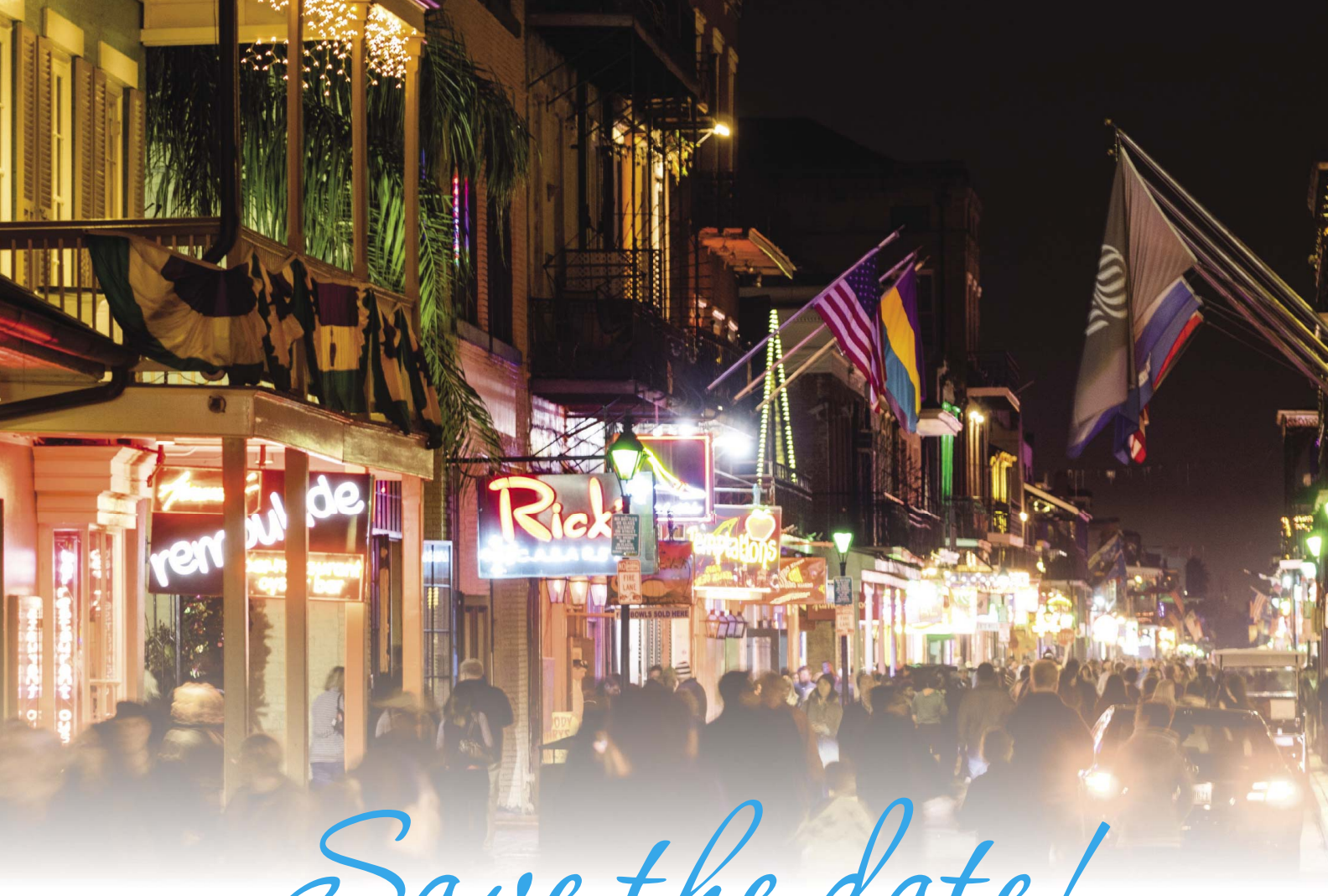

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About the cover:

The cover format of each volume of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* honors one of the many professionals throughout history who recognized not only how disease might be spread but also how the principles of epidemiology could be applied to reduce healthcare-associated infections.

Florence Nightingale (1820–1910) was named after the Italian city where she was born to affluent and well-educated English landowners. As a middle-class woman in Victorian England, Florence recognized that she was destined for a life of domesticity and "trivial occupations." Her choice of nursing, given its reputation at the time as a vocation for poor elderly spinsters, was met with significant familial opposition. During her European travels, Ms. Nightingale visited the Deaconess Mutterhaus in Kaiserswerth, Düsseldorf, one of the most forward thinking nursing training schools of the day. She returned to Düsseldorf to complete her training and then studied with the Sisters of Charity in Paris. She later assumed the role of superintendent at a hospital for invalid gentlewomen in London.

In 1854, the Minister of War invited Ms. Nightingale to oversee the introduction of nurses at British Army hospitals in Scutari, Turkey. Up to that point, 20% of men who fought in the Crimean War died, and approximately 70% of those deaths were due to infections such as typhus, cholera, typhoid, and dysentery. The germ theory of disease had not yet been formulated, but Florence Nightingale recognized that most problems were caused by "inadequate diet, dirt, and drains." She adopted the concept of "sanitary nursing" ensuring that patient care focused on prevention of infection through adequate diet, fresh air, light, warmth, and cleanliness. She was an early advocate for hand hygiene and the need for clean water, adequate ventilation, and appropriate sewage disposal. Each night, she traveled through more than 6 km of hospital wards carrying a Turkish lamp; thus the media referred to her as "The Lady with the Lamp." With her interventions, mortality rates declined to 2%–6%.

In response, a grateful nation raised £50,000 for the Nightingale Fund, and the first professional training school for nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, was established under her direction. Florence Nightingale was one of the first to apply statistical analysis to her observations. She made important recommendations regarding the optimal design of hospitals and patient wards, saying, "The very first requirement in a hospital is that it should do the sick no harm." Training schools have been established worldwide based on her ideas. Florence Nightingale was the first woman to receive Britain's highest civilian decoration, the Order of Merit. She died at the age of 90 after many years of being bed-ridden due to chronic illness, possibly brucellosis.

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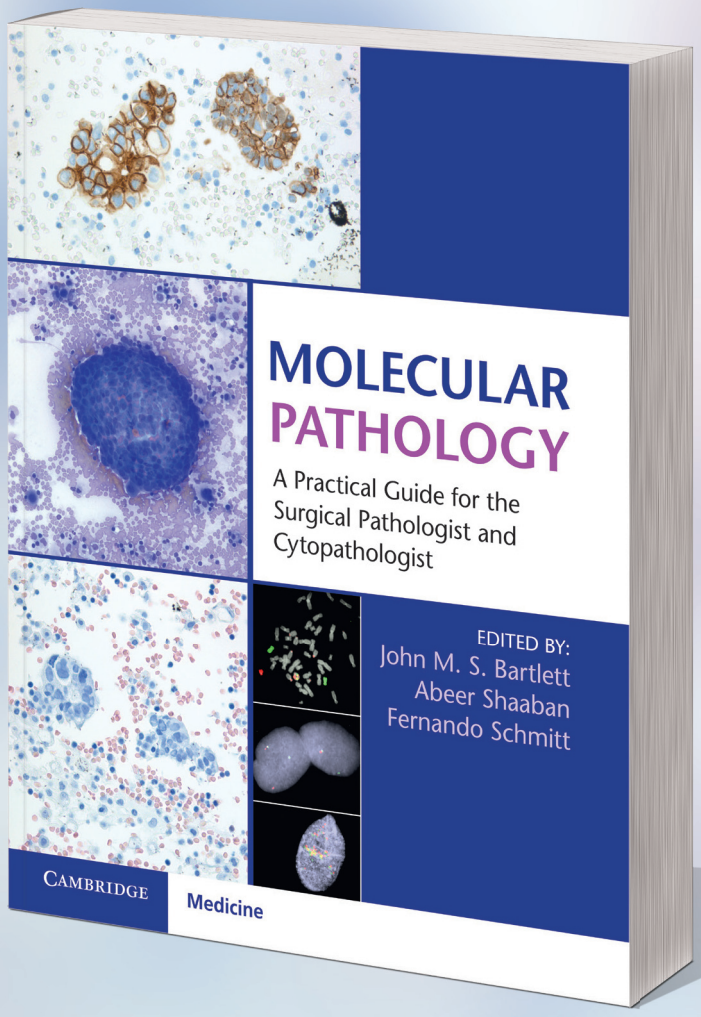

This practical manual provides a comprehensive yet concise guide to state-of-the-art molecular techniques and their applications. It starts with an overview of the essential principles of molecular techniques, followed by separate chapters detailing the use of these techniques in particular tissues and organs, and describing recommended treatment plans. Each chapter covers the tests available, their advantages, limitations, and use as diagnostic and prognostic tools, with key learning points at the end of each topic. Using both histologic and cytologic samples, it discusses how to interpret test results in a pathologic context and enables trainees and practicing pathologists to gain an in-depth understanding of molecular diagnostic techniques and how to incorporate them into routine diagnostic practice. Aiding the daily practice of refining diagnosis, as well as offering a didactic approach, this book is an essential reference for practicing pathologists and cytopathologists as well as trainees in pathology.

- Offers a system-specific molecular approach in tissues and cytological preparations and covers current and future trends in molecular pathology to familiarize pathologists and cytopathologists with molecular diagnostic and prognostic criteria
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