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- [The new WHO classification and recent results in soft tissue tumor pathology].
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[Der Pathologe](#) [01 Sep 2013, 34(5):436-448]

Type: Review, Journal Article, English Abstract (lang: ger)

DOI: [10.1007/s00292-013-1784-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00292-013-1784-z)

Abstract

The new World Health Organization (WHO) classification presents a comprehensive description of soft tissue tumors which was published in book format at the beginning of 2013. Changes have been made relating to the allocation of known entities, e.g. undifferentiated sarcomas are formed into a new group and are not longer assigned to the so-called fibrohistiocytic tumors and new subgroups were incorporated, such as nerve sheath tumors and gastrointestinal stroma tumors which were previously included in the tumor classification of other organ systems. This development is important from the practical point of view as most of relevant soft tissue tumors are now summarized and can be found in a single book. This is also related to the rapid increase in knowledge of the genetics and cell biology of soft tissue tumors. At present there is considerable progress in tumor pathology illustrated by the fact that important new findings have been published after completion of the classification, such as those related to the identification of the recurrent NAB2-STAT6 gene fusion in solitary fibrous tumors and the detection of frequent mutations in the promoter of the hTERT gene in malignant melanoma. In this report some new findings and clinically relevant aspects of soft tissue tumor pathology will be presented.



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WHO Classification of Tumours, 4th Edition, Volume 5. Edited by Fletcher CDM, Bridge JA, Hogendoorn PCW, Mertens F. Diagnostic criteria, pathological features, and associated genetic alterations are presented in a strictly disease-oriented manner. Sections on all recognized neoplasms and their variants include new ICD-O codes, epidemiology, clinical features, macroscopy, pathology, genetic alterations, and prognostic and predictive factors. The book, prepared by 159 authors from 24 countries, contains more than 1200 colour photographs, tables and figures, and more than 3000 references.