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Editor

European Surgical Orthopaedics and Traumatology

The EFORT Textbook

With 3294 Figures and 278 Tables

 Springer Reference



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ISBN 978-3-642-34745-0 ISBN 978-3-642-34746-7 (eBook)

ISBN 978-3-642-34747-4 (print and electronic bundle)

DOI 10.1007/978-3-642-34746-7

Springer Heidelberg New York Dordrecht London

Library of Congress Control Number: 2014932431

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Printed on acid-free paper

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Preface

This EFORT textbook was developed by the Executive Committee following the excellent *Surgical Techniques in Orthopaedics and Traumatology* edited by Prof. Jacques Duparc a decade ago.

Following discussions with two major publishers, we were assured that a hard copy textbook/encyclopedia would fill an important niche in the surgical literature.

Our aim was to produce a text which would act as a surgical techniques guide, but also embrace the total management of the patients which, it is now realised, is vital to best surgical practice and maximal patient outcomes.

I was very enthusiastic because, as an Englishman with some exposure to European literature and practice, I realised this book would present an exciting opportunity to bring together and publicise the rich variety and quality of clinical practice, research, and literature available in Europe, which was not fully appreciated by much of the English-speaking world.

The layout of the book is traditional in some ways, but I was anxious that all the authors should present their views in their own personal style. Therefore the book is arranged in 10 sections and the chapters have a common overall format. Each chapter has a contents section for easy checking and keywords, but the “flavour” of the authors’ professional approach to the topic is apparent from reading each individual chapter.

Hence, this book is a unique collection of chapters on all the major conditions we deal with in orthopaedics and traumatology, presented in a lively way and embracing many well-tested techniques and management protocols.

The overall aim was to produce a source (major reference work) which will be equally valuable to trainees, all those involved in education and training, and those whose profession is in a general rather than super-specialised practice. Hence each chapter has sub-sections on, literature, relevant basic sciences, clinical assessment, indications for surgery, pre-operative planning, surgical techniques, post-operative management, rehabilitation, complications and outcomes.

I must pay tribute to the Section Editors who have been excellent and without whom the book would not have been started, let alone written. Here I must mention particularly Franz Langlais, who was tragically taken from us early on. Their expertise and enthusiasm have been invaluable. Nevertheless, because of the requirement to have a common approach and theme, and

conscious that many authors are not primary English speakers, I thought it essential to edit and review the whole text personally. Therefore, any defects are mine.

Throughout I have had unqualified support from all my colleagues on the Executive Committee, in particular the supervising Presidents, Karl-Göran Thorngren, Miklos Szendroi, Pierre Hoffmeyer and Manuel Cassiano Neves, together with an abundance of useful advice. Per Kjaersgaard-Anderson has been a tower of strength as my adviser especially in our final preparation and negotiations.

The actual process of producing such a book is sometimes challenging. It would not have been possible without my secretary/PA, Rosemary Radband. Her rapid and expert way of handling data, and some authors, made it possible. The Springer team – Gabriele Schroeder, Sylvia Blago and particularly Simone Giesler – has been excellent, expert, completely professional, and a pleasure to work with. Latterly Susan Davenport of EFORT has given unstinting support.

This task has been a great privilege and pleasure for me. I have come to appreciate and sometimes wonder at the works of my author colleagues. My thanks are not sufficient to express my gratitude to you all.

This book may never be published again in hard copy but the E-copy will be easy to update in future. We now have an authoritative and unique European base for our future educational programmes which will, I hope, enrich all our surgical lives.

George Bentley

London, 2014