
Foreword

The field of spinal deformity surgery has grown enormously since the inception of the Scoliosis Research Society in the 1960s. All of our concepts about how to correct spinal deformities are quite different from what they were 40 to 50 years ago. Our understanding of biomechanics, spinal fixation, and biologics have progressed as much in the last 10 years as they did from the mid-1960s to the mid-1990s. With the advances of the past decade, there is a tremendous demand for guidance and information on the management of spinal deformity.

It is with considerable enthusiasm that I greet the publication of *Spinal Deformity: A Guide to Surgical Planning and Management*. The editors are leaders in the field and have carefully chosen authors from both orthopedic and neurosurgery specialties who are recognized experts in complex spinal reconstructive surgery. This comprehensive work is well illustrated, thoughtfully written, and filled with the pragmatic information and clinical problem-solving that is needed for treating complex deformities. One of its strengths is the inclusion of pediatric as well as adult conditions of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbosacral spine. The textbook also addresses how to access and decompress the spine, both anteriorly (through an anterior or posterolateral approach) and posteriorly. Of particular note, cutting-edge minimally invasive techniques being used to treat spinal deformity are discussed. One must remember that with minimally invasive approaches, preliminary data are being presented. As minimally invasive techniques are tested over time, I suspect some approaches will fall by the wayside; however, many will become part of our surgical repertoire. We must also remember that techniques and principles of spinal deformity are changing rapidly. I believe this textbook will become an important reference that will be revised from time to time as new techniques evolve.

Spinal deformity surgery is no longer solely an orthopedic specialty. Today, more and more neurosurgeons are managing and treating spinal deformities, and I hope this trend continues to grow. For any orthopedic surgeon or neurosurgeon who is interested in complex spinal surgery and spinal deformity reconstruction, this textbook is a must read. It promises to become the definitive reference and a valuable resource for the novice as well as the experienced surgeon. I congratulate Drs. Mummaneni, Lenke, and Haid for this major contribution to our specialty.

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Foreword

The surgical treatment of spinal deformities remains a challenge for spine surgeons. Although there have been books published on the management of spinal deformity, *Spinal Deformity: A Guide to Surgical Planning and Management* is the latest contribution to this growing literature and successfully elucidates the newer concepts with lessons for all surgeons who manage complex spinal deformity.

The editors, Drs. Mummaneni, Lenke, and Haid, are to be congratulated for assembling a comprehensive textbook that provides the reader with the guidance necessary to treat a wide range of spinal deformities. The editors and authors are recognized leaders in the management of spinal abnormalities, specifically, of spinal deformities. The book is very well organized and divided into four parts. Part I focuses on advances in spine technology, such as the application of spinal biologics and image-guided navigation. Even though this text is dedicated to surgical planning and management, a useful chapter on conservative management of thoracolumbar deformities has been included. The essence of the book, Parts II through IV, focuses on surgical techniques for treating a variety of deformities of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine. In each of the surgical technique chapters, the reader will find many helpful features which make this book an invaluable resource: decision-making algorithms outline the pathways for treating a specific deformity; bulleted lists summarize each technique's key steps and serve as a review, especially for novice surgeons, before beginning the surgical procedure; pearls throughout the book offer insights that will be of inestimable value to all spine surgeons. There are also excellent chapters on minimally invasive approaches to the cervical and lumbar spine and on cervical laminoplasty. In addition, numerous illustrations, radiographs, and case examples assist the reader in understanding the nuances of each technique and demonstrate the results that can be achieved.

As our population ages and as imaging techniques become increasingly sophisticated, patients suffering from and diagnosed with deformities will become more commonplace. This textbook is contemporary, comprehensive, and reflects the current state of the art. It is essential reading for both novice and experienced surgeons treating spinal deformities. This book would be an excellent addition to the library of every orthopedic surgeon, neurosurgeon, and resident, and should be in every spine surgeon's office.

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