SABISTON TEXTBOOK of SURGERY

The **BIOLOGICAL BASIS** of **MODERN SURGICAL PRACTICE**

20TH EDITION

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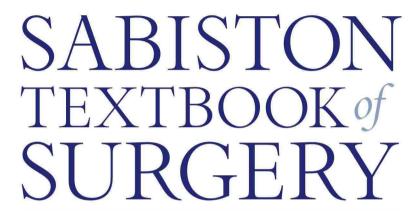
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To our patients, who grant us the privilege of practicing our craft; to our students, residents, and colleagues, from whom we learn; and to our wives—Mary, Shannon, Karen, and June—without whose support this would not have been possible.

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A SCORE OF SCORES

This 20th or "Score" edition of Sabiston's Textbook of Surgery represents both a culmination and the continuation of the record of the 19 preceding editions, each of which scored their goal of serving as surgery's English language evidence-based reference work. The tradition of providing expansive update information, including detailed exposition of surgical pathophysiology to assist the surgeon in his/her adaptation of generic data for an innovative solution of an atypical clinical problem, has been maintained in this edition. The first two sections of this edition characterize, in detail, the systemic and organ specific responses to injury, describe perioperative management (including anesthesia), and cover the diagnosis and treatment of surgical infections and other surgical complications. The third section is devoted to trauma and critical care in recognition of the fact that surgical intervention is in itself a controlled form of trauma and that critical care expertise is essential to optimize surgical outcomes. Those initial three sections also contain chapters on ethics and professionalism, critical analysis of outcomes, patient safety issues, surgical aspects of mass casualty incidents, and a preview of the potential benefits of emerging technologies such as informatics, electronics, and robotics. Collectively the information in those sections prepares the reader to evaluate and use the current best-evidence-based recommendations for the management of surgical disease of organ systems and tissues as presented in the subsequent nine sections. The last section consists of seven chapters in which essential subspecialty-specific principles are enunciated and related to general surgery practice to complete the picture of surgery as a medical discipline.

This new edition, which is designed to meet the information format preferences of medical students, residents, fellows, and practicing surgeons of all ages, is available in both print and electronic format including that for e-readers such as Kindle. Additionally, this edition has a website called Expert Consult (www.expertconsult.com), which enables the reader to obtain enhanced content such as interactive images that can be used to generate slideshow presentations and annotated test-yourself material, and, with variable magnification, optimize visualization of specific image details.

Dr. Townsend, the editorial descendant of Christopher, Davis, and Sabiston, and his associate editors have generated an effective mix of authoritative senior authors, with voices heard in previous editions and thoroughly updated in this volume, and carefully chosen rising stars to promote clinically useful understanding of the principles guiding surgical intervention. In the aggregate this textbook promotes the concept of "precision surgery," which has developed during the eight decades since 1936 when Frederick Christopher published the first edition of his Textbook of Surgery from which this volume has descended. As such, this new edition will enhance the reader's ability to optimize the diagnosis of surgical disease and the treatment of surgical patients. In short, this new "Score" edition has scored again by extending the reign of Sabiston's Textbook of Surgery as the "...definitive treatise on surgical practice" as cited by a perceptive reviewer of the 18th edition in 2008.

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Dries DJ. Book review. Sabiston's Textbook of Surgery: The biological basis of modern surgical practice, 18th edition. Shock 2008; 29: 650.

PREFACE

Surgery continues to evolve as new technology, techniques, and knowledge are incorporated into the care of surgical patients. The 20th edition of *Sabiston Textbook of Surgery* reflects these exciting changes and new knowledge. We have incorporated more than 50 new authors to ensure that the most current information is presented. This new edition has revised and enhanced the current chapters to reflect these changes.

The primary goal of this new edition is to remain the most thorough, useful, readable, and understandable textbook

presenting the principles and techniques of surgery. It is designed to be equally useful to students, trainees, and experts in the field. We are committed to maintaining this tradition of excellence begun in 1936. Surgery, after all, remains a discipline in which the knowledge and skill of a surgeon combine for the welfare of our patients.

Courtney M. Townsend, Jr., MD

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Our authors, respected authorities in their fields and busy physicians and surgeons, all did an outstanding job in sharing their wealth of knowledge.

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