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JABISTON TEXTBOOKOF SURGERY



TEXTBOOKOF SURGERY

The Biological Basis of Modern Surgical Practice

18th

COURTNEY M. TOWNSEND, JR., MD

Professor and John Woods Harris Distinguished Chairman
Department of Surgery
The University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, Texas

R. DANIEL BEAUCHAMP, MD

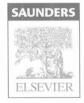
J. C. Foshee Distinguished Professor of Surgery Chairman, Section of Surgical Sciences Vanderbilt University Medical Center Surgeon-in-Chief, Vanderbilt University Hospital Nashville, Tennessee

B. MARK EVERS, MD

Professor, Departments of Surgery and of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Robertson-Poth Distinguished Chair in General Surgery
Director, Sealy Center for Cancer Cell Biology
Director, UTMB Comprehensive Cancer Center
The University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, Texas

KENNETH L. MATTOX, MD

Professor and Vice Chairman
Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery
Baylor College of Medicine
Chief of Staff and Chief of Surgery
Ben Taub General Hospital
Houston, Texas





1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Suite 1800 Philadelphia, PA 19103-2899

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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.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Jose Acosta, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, U.S. Naval Hospital, San Diego; Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, University of California-Irvine, Orange, California Management of Acute Trauma

Charles A. Adams, Jr., MD

Medical Director, Surgical Intensive and Intermediate Surgical Care Units, Rhode Island Hospital; Assistant Professor of Surgery, Brown Medical School, Providence, Rhode Island Surgical Critical Care

Louis H. Alarcon, MD

Assistant Professor, Departments of Critical Care Medicine and Surgery and Associate Director, Trauma Surgery, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mediators of the Inflammatory Response

Daniel A. Anaya, MD

Fellow, Surgical Oncology, The University of Texas, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas

Surgical Infections and Choice of Antibiotics

Stanley W. Ashley, MD

Frank Sawyer Professor and Vice-Chairman, Department of Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Acute Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage

Paul S. Auerbach, MD, MS

Clinical Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Division of Emergency Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California

Bites and Stings

Ali Azizzadeh, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, The University of Texas at Houston Medical School, Houston, Texas

Thoracic Vasculature With Emphasis on the Thoracic Aorta

Clyde F. Barker, MD

Donald Guthrie Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

B. Timothy Baxter, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

The Lymphatics

R. Daniel Beauchamp, MD

J. C. Foshee Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Chairman, Section of Surgical Sciences, Vanderbilt University Medical Center; Surgeon-in-Chief, Vanderbilt University Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee

The Spleen

Paul R. Beery, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Ohio State University Grant Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio Surgery in the Pregnant Patient

Michael Belkin, MD

Division Chief, Vascular Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

David H. Berger, MD

Professor of Surgery and Vice-Chair, Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine; Operative Care Line Executive, Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Houston, Texas Surgery in the Elderly

Walter L. Biffl, MD

Associate Professor and Chief, Surgical Critical Care, Department of Surgery, University of Colorado Health Science Center, Denver, Colorado Surgical Critical Care

John D. Birkmeyer, MD

George D. Zuidema Professor and Chair, Surgical Outcomes Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan Critical Assessment of Surgical Outcomes

Steven J. Blackwell MD

Stephen R. Lewis Professor of Plastic Surgery, Division of Plastic Surgery, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas Plastic Surgery

Mark E. Brecher, MD

Professor and Vice-Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Director of Transfusion Medicine, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina Hematologic Principles in Surgery

Bruce D. Browner, MD

Gray-Gossling Professor and Chairman, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, Connecticut

Emergency Care of Musculoskeletal Injuries

Brian B. Burkey, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, Vanderbilt-Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Head and Neck

John L. Burns, MD

Clinical Instructor, Department of Plastic Surgery, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas Plastic Surgery

Kathleen E. Carberry, RN

Research Coordinator, Center for Clinical Outcomes Research, Congenital Heart Surgery Service, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, Texas

Congenital Heart Disease

Ronald A. Carson, PhD

Harris L. Kempner Distinguished Professor, Institute for the Medical Humanities, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Ethics in Surgery

Ravi S. Chari, MD

Professor of Surgery and Cancer Biology and Chief, Division of Hepatobiliary Surgery and Liver Transplantation, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee Biliary System

Robert R. Cima, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota

Anus

William G. Cioffi, MD

Surgeon-in-Chief, Department of Surgery, Rhode Island Hospital; Professor and Chairman of Surgery, Brown Medical School, Providence, Rhode Island

Surgical Critical Care

Raul Coimbra, MD

Professor of Surgery and Chief, Division of Trauma, Burns, and Surgical Critical Care, University of California-San Diego, San Diego, California

Management of Acute Trauma

Michael S. Conte, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

Michael D'Angelica, MD

Assistant Attending, Department of Surgery, Division of Hepatobiliary Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

The Liver

Alan Dardik, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Yale University School of Medicine; Chief, Surgical Research, Veterans Affairs Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven, Connecticut Surgery in the Elderly

Merril T. Dayton, MD

Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, State University of New York-Buffalo; Chief of Surgery, Kaleida Health System, Buffalo General Hospital, Buffalo, New York Surgical Complications

Joseph P. DeAngelis, MD

Resident, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, Connecticut Emergency Care of Musculoskeletal Injuries

E. Patchen Dellinger, MD

Professor and Vice-Chairman, Department of Surgery and Chief, Division of General Surgery, University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, Washington Surgical Infections and Choice of Antibiotics

Christopher J. Dente, MD

Associate Chief of Trauma, Department of Surgery, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia *Ultrasound for Surgeons*

Jose J. Diaz, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery and Medicine, Division of Trauma and Surgical Care, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Bedside Surgical Procedures

Magruder C. Donaldson, MD

Chairman of Surgery, MetroWest Medical Center, Framingham; Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

Quan-Yang Duh, MD

Professor of Surgery, Surgical Service, San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Francisco, California The Adrenal Glands

Timothy J. Eberlein, MD

Bixby Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri *Tumor Biology and Tumor Markers*

E. Christopher Ellison, MD

Associate Vice President for Health Sciences, Vice Dean of Clinical Affairs, Robert M. Zollinger Professor, and Chair, Department of Surgery, Ohio Sate University Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio

Surgery in the Pregnant Patient

Stephen S. Entman, MD

Professor Emeritus, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee Gynecologic Surgery

Anthony L. Estrera, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, The University of Texas at Houston Medical School, Houston, Texas

Thoracic Vasculature With Emphasis on the Thoracic Aorta

Richard T. Ethridge, MD, PhD

Resident Surgeon, Division of Plastic Surgery, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Wound Healing

Thomas R. Eubanks, DO

President, Portland Surgical Specialists, Portland, Oregon Hiatal Hernia and Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

B. Mark Evers, MD

Professor, Departments of Surgery and of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Robertson-Poth Distinguished Chair in General Surgery; Director, Sealy Center for Cancer Cell Biology; and Director, UTMB Comprehensive Cancer Center, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Molecular and Cell Biology; Small Intestine

Timothy C. Fabian, MD

Harwell Wilson Alumni Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tennessee

The Spleen

Samir M. Fakhry, MD

Chief, Trauma and Surgical Critical Care; Associate Chair for Research and Education, Department of Surgery, Inova Fairfax Hospital; Professor of Surgery, Virginia Commonwealth University-Inova Campus, Falls Church, Virginia

Hematologic Principles in Surgery

Victor A. Ferraris, MD, PhD

Tyler Gill Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, Kentucky

Acquired Heart Disease: Coronary Insufficiency

Mitchell P. Fink, MD

Professor and Chair, Department of Critical Care Medicine; Watson Professor of Surgery; and Associate Vice-Chancellor for Translational Research and Commercialization, Department of Critical Care, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Mediators of the Inflammatory Response

Samuel R. G. Finlayson, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Surgery, Dartmouth Medical School, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, New Hampshire

Critical Assessment of Surgical Outcomes

Nicholas Fiore, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Plastic Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas *Hand Surgery*

Josef E. Fischer, MD

William V. McDermott Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School; Surgeon-in-Chief, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Metabolism in Surgical Patients

Yuman Fong, MD

Murray F. Brennan Chair in Surgery, Department of Surgery, Gastric and Mixed Tumor Service, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

The Liver

Robbi L. Franklin, MD

Resident, Department of Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas Neurosurgery

Charles D. Fraser, Jr., MD

Chief and The Donovan Chair in Congenital Health Surgery, Texas Children's Hospital; Chief, Division of Congenital Heart Surgery, Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas

Congenital Heart Disease

Julie A. Freischlag, MD

William Steward Halsted Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland Venous Disease

Robert D. Fry, MD

Professor of Surgery and Chair, Department of Surgery, Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Colon and Rectum

Eric R. Frykberg, MD

Professor of Surgery, University of Florida College of Medicine; Chief, Division of General Surgery, Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, Jacksonville, Florida

The Surgeon's Role in Unconventional Civilian Disasters

David A. Fullerton, MD

Professor and Division Head, Cardiothoracic Surgery, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, Denver, Colorado

Acquired Heart Disease: Valvular

James J. Gallagher, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Shriners Hospital for Children, Galveston, Texas

Burns

Peter Gloviczki, MD

Director, Gonda Vascular Center, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Aneurysmal Vascular Disease

Peter S. Goedegebuure, PhD

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri Tumor Biology and Tumor Markers

Joel E. Goldberg, MD

Associate Surgeon, Brigham and Women's Hospital; Instructor in Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Acute Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage

Guillermo Gomez, MD

Associate Professor and Granville T. Hall Chair, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Emerging Technology in Surgery: Informatics, Electronics, Robotics

Darla K. Granger, MD

Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery, St. John Hospital and Medical Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan Transplantation Immunobiology and Immunosuppression

Edwin Gravereaux, MD

Instructor of Surgery, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

Cornelia R. Graves, MD

Medical Director, Tennessee Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Consultant, Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Baptist Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee *Gynecologic Surgery*

Carl E. Haisch, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina Access and Ports

Fadi Hanbali, MD

Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery Division, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, School of Medicine, El Paso, Texas

Neurosurgery

John B. Hanks, MD

C. Bruce Morton Professor and Chief, Department of Surgery, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia *Thyroid*

Alden H. Harken, MD

Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of California–San Francisco (East Bay), San Francisco, California Acautred Heart Disease: Valvular

Jennifer A. Heller, MD

Assistant Professor and Surgery Director, Johns Hopkins Vein Center, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Venous Disease

David N. Herndon, MD

Chief of Staff, Shriners Burns Hospital for Children; Professor of Surgery and Jesse H. Jones Distinguished Chair in Burn Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Burns

Asher Hirshberg, MD

Professor of Surgery, State University of New York Downstate College of Medicine; Director of Emergency Vascular Surgery, Kings County Hospital Center, Brooklyn, New York

Vascular Trauma

Ginger E. Holt, MD

Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Bone Tumors

Michael D. Holzman, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Surgery and Lester and Sara Jayne Williams Chair in Academic Surgery, General Surgery Division, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

The Spleen

David B. Hoyt, MD

John E. Connolly Professor and Chairman of Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of California-Irvine, Orange, California

Management of Acute Trauma

J. Dirk Iglehart, MD

Chief, Division of Surgical Oncology, Anne E. Dyson Professor of Women's Cancer, Harvard Medical School; and Director of Women's Cancers Program, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Diseases of the Breast

Suzanne T. Ildstad, MD

Director, Institute for Cellular Therapeutics; Jewish Hospital Distinguished Professor of Transplantation; and Professor of Surgery, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky

Transplantation Immunobiology and Immunosuppression

Barry K. Jarnagin, MD

Associate Professor, Urogynecology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee

Gynecologic Surgery

R. Scott Jones, MD

Director, Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, American College of Surgeons, Chicago, Illinois; and Professor Emeritus, Department of Surgery, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, Virginia

Surgical Patient Safety

Kimberly S. Kirkwood, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of California–San Francisco, San Francisco, California

The Appendix

Tien C. Ko, MD

Professor of Surgery, The University of Texas Health Science Center and Chief of Surgery, Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital, Houston, Texas

Molecular and Cell Biology

Mahmoud N. Kulaylat, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, State University of New York-Buffalo, Buffalo General Hospital, Buffalo, New York

Surgical Complications

Matthew D. Kwan, MD

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California; General Surgery Resident, Department of Surgery, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Regenerative Medicine

Terry C. Lairmore, MD

Professor of Surgery and Director, Division of Surgical Oncology, Scott and White Memorial Hospital and Clinic, Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine, Temple, Texas

The Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Syndromes

Christine L. Lau, MD

Assistant Professor, Section of Thoracic Surgery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

The Mediastinum

Mimi Leong, MD

Assistant Professor, Plastic Surgery Division, Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston. Texas

Wound Healing

Benjamin D. Li, MD

Professor and Chief, Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana

Abdominal Wall, Umbilicus, Peritoneum, Mesenteries, Omentum, and Retroperitoneum

Michael T. Longaker, MD, MBA

Deane P. and Louise Mitchell Professor, Department of Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford and Deputy Director, The Stanford Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Palo Alto, California

Regenerative Medicine

Robert R. Lorenz, MD

Head, Section of Head and Neck Surgery, Laryngotracheal Reconstruction/Oncology, Head and Neck Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

Head and Neck

Jeanne M. Lukanich, MD

Staff, Division of Thoracic Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital; Instructor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Chest Wall and Pleura

John Maa, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, University of California–San Francisco, San Francisco, California *The Appendix*

Najjia Mahmoud, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Colon and Rectum

Mary Maish, MD

Surgical Director of the Esophageal Center, Department of Surgery, Division of Thoracic Surgery, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

Esophagus

Mark A. Malangoni, MD

Professor of Surgery, Case Western Reserve University; Chairperson, Department of Surgery; and Surgeon-in-Chief, MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio Hernias

James F. Markmann, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

David J. Maron, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Colon and Rectum

Kenneth L. Mattox, MD

Professor and Vice Chairman, Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine; Chief of Staff and Chief of Surgery, Ben Taub General Hospital, Houston, Texas

Vascular Trauma

Addison K. May, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery and Anesthesiology, Division of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Bedside Surgical Procedures

John C. McDonald, MD

Chancellor and Dean, Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana

Abdominal Wall, Umbilicus, Peritoneum, Mesenteries, Omentum, and Retroperitoneum

Robert M. Mentzer, Jr., MD

Dean, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan

Acquired Heart Disease: Coronary Insufficiency

David W. Mercer, MD

Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, Texas

Stomach

Dean J. Mikami, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio Surgery in the Pregnant Patient

Charles C. Miller, III, PhD

Professor, Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, The University of Texas at Houston Medical School, Houston, Texas

Thoracic Vasculature With Emphasis on the Thoracic Aorta

Jeffrey F. Moley, MD

Professor of Surgery and Chief, Section of Endocrine and Oncologic Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri

The Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Syndromes

Richard J. Mullins, MD

Professor of Surgery and Chief, Trauma/Critical Care, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, Oregon Shock, Electrolytes, and Fluid

Ali Naji, MD, PhD

J. William White Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

Haring J. W. Nauta, MD, PhD

Professor, Chief, and Samuel R. Snodgrass Professor of Neurosurgery, Division of Neurosurgery, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Neurosurgery

Elaine E. Nelson, MD

Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine, Regional Medical Center of San Jose, San Jose, California *Bites and Stings*

Heidi Nelson, MD

Professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota Anus

David Netscher, MD

Clinical Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery; Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine; Chief of Hand Surgery, Texas Children's Hospital; and Chief of Plastic Surgery, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Houston, Texas

Hand Surgery

James L. Netterville, MD

Director, Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Mark C. Smith Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Head and Neck

Leigh Neumayer, MD

Professor of Surgery, Department of General Surgery, University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, Utah Principles of Preoperative and Operative Surgery

Robert L. Norris, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery and Chief, Division of Emergency Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, California

Bites and Stings

Brant K. Oelschlager, MD

Associate Professor; Director, Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery; and Director, Swallowing Center, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington Hiatal Hernia and Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

Kim M. Olthoff, MD

Director of Liver Transplant Program, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

Aria F. Olumi, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery/Urology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts Urologic Surgery

Christopher D. Owens, MD

Instructor of Surgery, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

Frank M. Parker, DO

Assistant Professor, Department of Vascular Surgery, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina

Access and Ports

Joel T. Patterson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Neurosurgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Neurosurgery

Carlos A. Pellegrini, MD

The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, Washington

Hiatal Hernia and Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease

Linda G. Phillips, MD

Truman G. Blocker, Jr., MD, Distinguished Professor and Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas Wound Healing; Breast Reconstruction

Iraklis I. Pipinos, MD

Associate Professor, Vascular Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska *The Lymphatics*

Eyal E. Porat, MD

Chairman, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Rabin Medical Center, Petah Tikva, Israel

Thoracic Vasculature With Emphasis on the Thoracic Aorta

Russell G. Postier, MD

John A. Schilling Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Acute Abdomen

Donald S. Prough, MD

Professor and Chair, Department of Anesthesiology, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas Anesthesiology Principles, Pain Management, and Conscious Sedation

Joe B. Putnam, Jr., MD

Ingram Professor of Surgery; Chairman, Department of Thoracic Surgery; Program Director, Resident Education in Thoracic Surgery; and Professor, Department of Biomedical Informatics, The Vanderbilt Clinic, Nashville, Tennessee

Lung (Including Pulmonary Embolism and Thoracic Outlet Syndrome)

Gautam G. Rao, MD

Assistant Professor, Gynecologic Oncology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee

Gynecologic Surgery

Scott I. Reznik, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Section of General Thoracic Surgery, Scott and White Memorial Hospital and Clinic, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, College of Medicine, Temple, Texas

Lung (Including Pulmonary Embolism and Thoracic Outlet Syndrome)

William O. Richards, MD

Ingram Professor of Surgery; Director, Laparoscopic General Surgery; and Medical Director, Center for Surgical Weight Loss, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Morbid Obesity

Kathryn A. Richardson, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana Abdominal Wall, Umbilicus, Peritoneum, Mesenteries, Omentum, and Retroperitoneum

Jerome P. Richie, MD

Chief, Division of Urology, Elliott Carr Cutler Professor of Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Urologic Surgery

Joseph J. Ricotta, II, MD

Fellow in Vascular Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Aneurysmal Vascular Disease

Layton F. Rikkers, MD

A. R. Curreri Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin Surgical Complications of Cirrbosis and Portal Hypertension

Thomas Stuart Riles, MD

Frank C. Spencer Professor of Surgery and Associate Dean for Medical Education and Technology, New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York

Cerebrovascular Disease

Emily K. Robinson, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, Texas *Stomach*

Caron B. Rockman, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, New York University School of Medicine, New York, New York Cerebrovascular Disease

John Rombeau, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Colon and Rectum

Michael J. Rosen, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio Hernias

Ronnie A. Rosenthal, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven and Chief, Surgical Service, Veterans Affairs Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven, Connecticut

Surgery in the Elderly

Howard M. Ross, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Colon and Rectum

Grace S. Rozycki, MD, RDMS

Chief of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care, Department of Surgery, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

Ultrasound for Surgeons

Edmund J. Rutherford, MD

Associate Professor, Trauma and General Surgery, WakeMed Faculty Physicians, Raleigh, North Carolina Hematologic Principles in Surgery

Ira M. Rutkow, MD, MPH, DrPH

Clinical Professor of Surgery, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, New Jersey *History of Surgery*

Hazim J. Safi, MD

Professor and Chairman, Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, The University of Texas at Houston Medical School, Houston, Texas

Thoracic Vasculature With Emphasis on the Thoracic Aorta

Leslie J. Salomone, MD

Clinical Fellow, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, Virginia *Thyroid*

Bruce D. Schirmer, MD

Stephen H. Watts Professor of Surgery and Director, Residency Program, Department of Surgery, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, Virginia Morbid Obesity

Herbert S. Schwartz, MD

Professor, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Bone Tumors

Shimul A. Shah, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Organ Transplantation, University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, Massachusetts

Biliary System

Abraham Shaked, MD, PhD

Professor of Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

George F. Sheldon, MD

Zack D. Owens Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Social Medicine and Chair Emeritus, Department of Surgery, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Hematologic Principles in Surgery

Edward R. Sherwood, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Anesthesiology Principles, Pain Management, and Conscious Sedation

Samuel Singer, MD

Chief, Sarcoma Disease Management Team, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York

Soft Tissue Sarcomas

Barbara L. Smith, MD, PhD

Director, Breast Program, Division of Surgical Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Diseases of the Breast

W. Roy Smythe, MD

Chairman, Department of Surgery; Professor of Surgery, Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, Scott & White Hospital, Texas A & M University Health Sciences Center College of Medicine, Temple, Texas

Lung (Including Pulmonary Embolism and Thoracic Outlet Syndrome)

Seng-jaw Soong, PhD

Professor of Medicine, Comprehensive Cancer Center, Wallace Tumor Institute, Birmingham, Alabama

Melanoma and Cutaneous Malignancies

Julie Ann Sosa, MA, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery and Clinical Epidemiology, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut *The Parathyroid Glands*

Ronald A. Squires, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Acute Abdomen

Michael L. Steer, MD

Chief, General Surgery and Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, Tufts-New England Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Exocrine Pancreas

Michael C. Stoner, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Vascular Surgery, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina

Access and Ports

David J. Sugarbaker, MD

Chief of Thoracic Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

Chest Wall and Pleura

Marcus C. B. Tan, MBBS (Hons)

Clinical Research Fellow, Department of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri Tumor Biology and Tumor Markers

Ali Tavakkolizadeh, MD

Associate Surgeon, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Instructor in Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Acute Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage

Nicholas E. Tawa, Jr., MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery (Cell Biology), Harvard Medical School and Associate in Surgery, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Metabolism in Surgical Patients

James C. Thompson, MD

Department of Surgery, Shriners Hospital for Children, Galveston, Texas

Endocrine Pancreas

Courtney M. Townsend, Jr., MD

Professor and John Woods Harris Distinguished Chairman, Department of Surgery, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Endocrine Pancreas

Richard H. Turnage, MD

Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana

Abdominal Wall, Umbilicus, Peritoneum, Mesenteries, Omentum, and Retroperitoneum

Robert Udelsman, MD, MBA

William H. Carmalt Professor of Surgery and Oncology and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut

The Parathyroid Glands

Marshall M. Urist, MD

Professor and Vice-Chairman, Department of Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama Melanoma and Cutaneous Malignancies

Thomas K. Varghese, Jr., MD

Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellow, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

The Mediastinum

Daniel Vargo, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Department of General Surgery, University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

Principles of Preoperative and Operative Surgery

Derrick C. Wan, MD

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford and General Surgery Resident, Department of Surgery, University of California–San Francisco, San Francisco, California

Regenerative Medicine

Brad W. Warner, MD

Apolline Blair Professor of Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine and Surgeon-in-Chief, St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri

Pediatric Surgery

Lawrence W. Way, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of California-San Francisco, San Francisco, California

Surgical Patient Safety

Jordan A. Weinberg, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama *The Spleen*

Anthony D. Whittemore, MD

Professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts

Peripheral Arterial Occlusive Disease

Bradon J. Wilhelmi, MD

Leonard Weiner Endowed Professor, Chief of Plastic Surgery, and Residency Program Director, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky

Breast Reconstruction

Courtney G. Williams, MD

Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

Anesthesiology Principles, Pain Management, and Conscious Sedation

Steven E. Wolf, MD

Professor of Surgery, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio and Director of Burns, U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Burns

Heidi Yeh, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Transplantation of Abdominal Organs

Michael W. Yeh, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Endocrine Surgical Unit, Division of General Surgery, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California The Adrenal Glands

"To study the phenomena of disease without books is to sail an uncharted sea . . ."

SIR WILLIAM OSLER (1849–1919)

During the past 3 score and 7 years, this surgical text, edited successively by Christopher (5 editions), Davis (4 editions), Sabiston (6 editions), and now Townsend (3 editions), has charted the surgical seas for generations of surgeons throughout their careers as they progressed from students to practitioners and teachers. Dr. Townsend and his three associate editors have added to the innovations that they initiated in the 15th edition in recognition of the ever-increasing velocity of acquisition of knowledge, expansion of surgical practice, and application of new technology. This edition is organized into 13 sections—focused on basic principles of surgery, organ-specific general surgical care, and the surgical superspecialties—to recapitulate the content of the American Board of Surgery certifying examination. The editorial team has added more than 50 new members to the all-star cast of authors for the 77 chapters that provide global coverage of surgery.

Of all the surgical texts, this one most successfully integrates information from the laboratory to illuminate the rationale for surgical care. Each chapter begins with a chapter outline and contains other tables presenting checklists of key principles and practices. Abundant use is made of color in illustrative photographs and drawings and to emphasize important aspects of graphs and tables. A unique feature is the citation and brief summary of seminal articles, which are beyond the reach of short—time span search programs, designed to inform the reader how we arrived at the current state-of-the-art.

The new chapters about patient safety considerations, bedside procedures, and regenerative medicine provide the reader with charts of previously unexplored surgical seas. Dr. Townsend and his colleagues have further enhanced the value of this classic work by bringing it into the world of electronic education. Expert Consult will facilitate lifetime learning by giving access to the fully searchable complete book content online, along with updates, references linked to Medline, downloadable illustrations, and "bonus" articles from surgical periodicals, as well as review questions that can be used in preparing for examinations.

In sum total, this volume sets a new standard for surgical textbooks. The information contained in this, Dr. Townsend's 3rd and overall the 18th, edition of this venerable text ensures smooth sailing in the currently turbulent surgical seas.

BASIL A. PRUITT, JR., MD

PREFACE

Surgery continues to evolve as new technology, techniques, and knowledge are incorporated into the care of surgical patients. Safety is paramount in care of our surgical patients. We have included a new chapter in this edition of *Sabiston Textbook of Surgery* about our roles and responsibilities to ensure safety. Surgeons, traditional leaders in mass casualty situations, face new problems and challenges in the era of bioterrorism. Distant surgery, employing robotic and telementoring technology, has become a reality. Minimally invasive techniques are being employed in almost all invasive procedures. Increased understanding of molecular genetic abnormalities has expanded the application of preemptive surgical operations to prevent cancer.

The 18th edition of the *Sabiston Textbook of Surgery* reflects these exciting changes and new knowledge. We have incorporated 3 new chapters and more than 50 new authors to ensure that the most current information is presented. The 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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