

Preface

Arthroscopy has been one of the most rapidly growing fields in orthopedics, but it has always been controversial. In the 1970s, the arthroscope was first regarded as an instrumentation for diagnosis and not as a subspecialty. In the 1980s, operative arthroscopy became a treatment for disease. This expansion raised the question of whether or not arthroscopy was a subspecialty. Today, with increasing interest and technologic advances, arthroscopic procedures and ideas have become an orthopedic field of variation and specialization. Arthroscopy has become a dominant field and subspecialty of orthopedics. At this time, the Arthroscopy Association of North America (AANA) is the largest subspecialty group inside the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS).

In light of the many new procedures developed over the past 10 years, this textbook aims to document the various techniques of arthroscopists at the turn of the 21st century. It can serve as a reference book to increase the arthroscopic spectrum and to provide information to those who are unable to attend professional meetings. This text brings together a variety of updated ideas and techniques.

Advanced Arthroscopy is the combined effort of numerous talented and hardworking surgeons. I would like to acknowledge their contributions as well as their friendship and support. It is my hope that this textbook will

serve to stimulate new ideas and further the development of arthroscopy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of this project:

Conni R. Fry, RHIT, for her assistance in coordinating the many manuscripts and correspondence required for this textbook.

Josh Paul, of the Springer-Verlag medical editorial staff, for his time and efforts in keeping us informed as this textbook progressed.

Laurel Lhowe, medical illustrator, for the excellent contribution of her artwork.

And especially Esther Gumpert, Springer-Verlag medical editor, for recognizing the importance of this textbook and her support throughout its development and completion.

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2000