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## Preface

Bone and joint infections are of great relevance to the fields of orthopedics and orthopedic trauma surgery worldwide, and it is with great pleasure that we present this first English edition of the textbook *Septic Bone and Joint Surgery*, translated from the first German edition. This textbook enables colleagues from all over the world to deepen their knowledge of this fascinating field of medicine.

The principle aim of this textbook is to provide both fully trained specialists and residents and fellows with the fundamental concepts of the diagnosis and therapeutic field of bone and joint infections.

The essential principles governing everyday practice are presented here without long theoretical debates or discrepant didactic opinions. The textbook combines the

experience of experts in the fields of orthopedic and orthopedic trauma surgery, plastic surgery, radiology, and infectiology, together representing all disciplines involved in the care of patients with bone and joint infections including infections of indwelling devices.

The English edition of the textbook required the help of many colleagues and we are particularly grateful for the kind support of Professor D. Seligson, Louisville, Kentucky, USA, Professor D. Lowenberg, San Francisco, California, USA, and Thieme Publishers for their excellent manuscript preparation.

We hope that the presented concepts will improve both the treatment and outcome for many patients with bone and joint infections all over the world, which is the one and only purpose of this book.

*Reinhard Schnettler*