

Preface

Arthroscopy has revolutionized the practice of orthopedics by providing the technical capability to examine and treat intra-articular abnormalities directly. The development of wrist arthroscopy was a natural evolutionary progression from the successful application of arthroscopy to other, larger joints. The wrist is a labyrinth of eight carpal bones and multiple articular surfaces, with both intrinsic and extrinsic ligaments and a triangular fibrocartilage complex—all within a 5-cm interval. This perplexing joint continues to challenge clinicians with an array of potential diagnoses and treatments. Wrist arthroscopy has significantly advanced our knowledge and understanding of this complex joint. This is an exciting time in the field; there has been considerable growth since pioneers, such as Terry L. Whipple, MD, Gary Poehling, MD, and A. Lee Osterman, MD, reported their original descriptions of the techniques they developed from reviewing the anatomy of the wrist.

The indications and techniques for wrist arthroscopy have continued to expand since Terry L. Whipple wrote his original textbook on arthroscopic surgery of the wrist approximately 12 years ago. Much has changed as more surgeons have been exposed to wrist arthroscopy and have contributed to the field, and as arthroscopy has been applied to the thumb and smaller joint areas of the hand.

This is truly an international text. Recognized experts from around the world have contributed their latest techniques and advances in wrist arthroscopy. These authors describe their arthroscopic techniques in detail and include tips and tricks to make the procedure easier for all of us to perform. This book and DVD contain updates on commonly performed wrist arthroscopy procedures, such as debridement of tears of the triangular fibrocartilage complex (TFCC) and management of carpal instability and distal radius fractures. It also includes the very latest descriptions of arthroscopic management of acute scaphoid fractures and selected nonunions, including arthroscopic bone grafting, arthroscopic excision of both volar and dorsal wrist ganglia, new techniques in arthroscopic repair of peripheral TFCC tears, and the application of arthroscopy and debridement to arthrofibrosis of the wrist.

This book, with an accompanying DVD is intended for the surgeon who is just beginning to develop an interest in wrist arthroscopy, as well as for the experienced arthroscopist who wants to refresh his memory before performing a specific arthroscopic procedure. Subjects for the beginner include how to evaluate the painful wrist; when to order imaging studies and which studies are appropriate; understanding the complexities and mechanics of carpal instability; and general arthroscopic anatomy and setup. Complex topics such as arthroscopic proximal carpectomy, electrothermal shrinkage, and arthroscopy of the thumb carpometacarpal joints and the small joints of the hand are discussed in detail for the wrist arthroscopy expert.

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Wrist Arthroscopy

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