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## Preface

*Nuclear Transfer Protocols: Cell Reprogramming and Transgenesis* is a comprehensive review of nuclear transfer technology in vertebrates, aimed at reprogramming differentiated nuclei and effecting targeted gene transfer. The emphasis here is on providing readily reproducible techniques for the generation of cloned embryos and animals in a number of key research and commercially important vertebrates. Additional chapters provide alternative cutting-edge methods for nuclear transfer, such as zona-free nuclear transfer and serial nuclear transfer. Of immense practical benefit are descriptions of procedures associated with cloning, such as in vitro maturation of oocytes, activation and culture of cloned embryos, maintenance of pregnancy, and neonatal care of clones.

*Nuclear Transfer Protocols: Cell Reprogramming and Transgenesis* also provides an understanding of the factors involved in nuclear reprogramming, which is imperative for the success of cloning. A section dealing with such cloning-related issues as aging and normality of clones is also included making this an essential comprehensive handbook for research and commercial laboratories involved in, or intending to work on, nuclear transfer. The volume will prove beneficial to molecular biologists, stem cell biologists, clinicians, biotechnologists, students, veterinarians, and animal care technicians involved with reprogramming, nuclear transfer, and transgenesis.

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