

## Preface

The field of bariatric surgery has grown at an exponential rate over the past decade. The number of bariatric operations has increased from less than 10,000 operations in 1998 to nearly 200,000 operations in 2008. Bariatric surgery has become an integral part of gastrointestinal surgery and is now an important part of education for surgical residents and fellows in minimally invasive surgery. Educational initiatives in bariatric surgery take many different forms and currently many textbooks on the topic of bariatric surgery are commercially available. However, there is a need for a quick-reference manual that provides up-to-date, easy access to information about this new and complex surgical specialty.

*The SAGES Manual: A Practical Guide to Bariatric Surgery* began as a project developed within the SAGES Bariatric Liaison group. The name of the book previews its primary purpose, as it is meant to provide practical information within a small pocket-sized book that can serve as a portable resource anywhere, including the ward and clinic. This manual provides a concise, practical guide to promote high-quality, safe care for patients undergoing weight loss surgery. It is intended to be used by any members of the multidisciplinary team, including surgeons, surgeons-in-training, medical physicians, medical students, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, nutritionists, and psychologists.

We would like to thank members of the SAGES Bariatric Liaison group who have contributed to the manual, the SAGES leadership whose support and encouragement were critical for its development, and Springer for helping to make this project a reality. Our goal is that knowledge gained from using this manual will help to promote safe and effective care for patients undergoing bariatric surgery.

*Ninh T. Nguyen, MD*

*Eric J. DeMaria, MD*

*Matthew M. Hutter, MD, MPH*

*Sayed Ikramuddin, MD*

<http://www.springer.com/978-0-387-69170-1>

The SAGES Manual

A Practical Guide to Bariatric Surgery

Nguyen, N.T.; DeMaria, E.; Ikramuddin, S.; Hutter, M.M.

(Eds.)

2008, XVI, 280 p. 62 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-0-387-69170-1