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## Preface

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) has truly found its place in dermatology and dermatologic surgery. Its utilization has increased steadily around the world and many investigators have contributed to the enormous amount of literature that can be found for the study of PDT. The path to utilization has basically taken two distinct routes: one that can be considered the United States model and one that can be considered the European model. These pathways have begun to intersect more and more over the past several years, and it is hoped that this textbook will be used as a major reference for those interested in PDT from a dermatology point of view in all corners of our world. PDT is truly global; although there are only two photosensitizers available in the United States, many more are available worldwide, with many clinicians utilizing PDT in different shapes and forms.

I have been very fortunate throughout my career to have worked alongside, been mentored by, and collaborated with many outstanding clinicians and scientists in dermatology. I am indebted to many, starting with my chairman during my residency, Dr. Henry Roenigk. Many outstanding teachers have paved the way for my career in dermatology, including Drs. William Caro, Ruth Frankel, June Robinson, and Jerome Garden. My fellow residents at Northwestern, most of whom are still my good friends, also contributed and still are contributing to our specialty in many exceptional ways. Drs. Amy Forman Taub, Morgan Magid, David Picascia, Dan Kaufman, Andrew Lazar, Richard Rubenstein, Neil Goldberg, and Kevin Pinski, to mention just a few, continue to motivate and push me to be involved in dermatology and always to strive for excellence. There are also my colleagues in the field and friends who have always been there for me, whom I am grateful to know, and with whom I consider it a privilege to work. I am also indebted to the contributors to this book and to Drs. David Goldberg, Mitch Goldman, and Mark Nestor. Others who have played an important part in my desire to learn more and more about PDT include Dr. Geoffrey Schulman and Paul Sowyrda.

I apologize to those whom I might have excluded unintentionally. I am also indebted to my family, my wife Cindee, and my children Ilissa and

Benjamin, who have endured my absence many nights when I was on the road, lecturing somewhere on the subjects I love. To my family and to my parents, thank you for making me the kind of doctor I have always dreamed of being.

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