# Preface

Until recently, patients with primary and metastatic liver cancer had dismal prognoses. However, with improvements in screening, detection, and therapeutics, the paradigms for managing these patients have shifted dramatically. Nowadays, the management algorithms require a multidisciplinary effort which includes medical oncologists, surgeons, radiologists, radiation oncologists, hepatologists, gastroenterologists, and many other physicians and health care professionals. Interestingly, one of the major changes has been the increased utilization, safety, and survival benefit of surgical options for patients previously considered unresectable.

Although tremendous advances in hepatobiliary surgical techniques have been made over the years, substantial perioperative morbidity and mortality still occurs. For this reason, many investigators have attempted to understand the basic mechanisms of postoperative hepatobiliary physiology and the limits for performing safe resection. One method for improving perioperative outcomes, and ultimately survival, has been to increase the size and function of the anticipated future liver remnant before surgery by utilizing hepatic venous embolotherapy techniques such as portal vein embolization. Not only does this reduce complication rates, it also enables patients previously considered unresectable due to limited hepatic reserve to undergo major hepatic resection.

For this book, we invited Eastern and Western authors who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with hepatobiliary malignancy to give the reader a global perspective on its management. A multitude of pertinent topics have been addressed including the history of hepatic resection, vascular and surgical anatomy, liver regeneration, factors affecting hypertrophy, pathophysiology of embolization and resection, embolization techniques, the indications for embolization and resection, potential complications, outcomes data for different diseases, novel strategies, and future perspectives. The editors thank all of the authors for their contributions to this book. We hope this work will spur the interest of clinicians and basic scientists with a focus in hepatobiliary malignancy and liver regeneration physiology so that we can continue to improve the lives of patients with these diseases.

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